A List of the ABSENTEES OF IRELAND, AND THE Yearly Value of their *Eſtates* and *Incomes* ſpent Abroad, &c.

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A

LIST

OF THE

ABSENTEES

OF

IRELAND,

AND THE

Yearly Value of their Estates and Incomes ſpent abroad.

WITH

OBSERVATIONS

ON THE

Preſent Trade and Condition of that KINGDOM.

The Second Edition, Corrected.

To which is added,

A Large APPENDIX, containing a farther List and Observations.

Vincit Amor Patriæ. Virgil.

LONDON,

Printed for Weaver Bickerton, in *Devereux-Court*, near *Temple-Bar*. M.DCC.XXX.

W. Musgrave!

BRITISH MUSEUM

To His Excellency

JOHN Lord *CARTERET*,

Lord Lieutenant-General,

And General Governor of *Ireland*,

And to the

LORDS

Spiritual and Temporal,

AND

COMMONS

IN

Parliament Assembled:

THESE

OBSERVATIONS

Are, with all Respect and Submission,

Humbly Dedicated by

The Author.

Di Patrij, Servate Domum, Servate Nepotes. Virg.

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BRITISH MUSEUM

THE PREFACE.

THE great Scarcity of Coin, which of late we have been very sensible of, put me on considering what should be the Cause thereof.

It soon occurred, that our Gentlemen abroad drew yearly out of the Kingdom great Quantities of our Species; but what the same amounted to, I saw, could not be ascertain'd, but by taking an Account of the particular Persons, to whom those Remittances were made, and of the yearly Value of the same.

On Enquiry made the last Summer, I collected the following List, with this particular Caution, to be under the real Value in every Article. And in order to know whether we were Losers or Gainers yearly by our Dealings and Remittances, I found it necessary to examine whether the whole Profit of our Trade was sufficient to answer the Demands upon us.

This I was enabled in some Measure to do, by an Opportunity I met with, of perusing

using some Copies of the Custom-House Books relating to the Exports and Imports of Ireland, *which were found among the Papers of a Great Man lately Deceased. From them I drew several Estimates relating to the Ballances of our Trade with particular Countries, and also made the best Enquiry I could among our Merchants for my better Information in other Particulars.*

These Matters of Fact being laid down as Principles, I have from thence made some Observations, with respect to the Consequences of our Gentlemen living abroad. And at the same time have given a View of our Trade with other Countries, and of the Benefits which accrue to England *by its Dealings with* Ireland. *And have likewise endeavour'd to shew, that it is the Interest of* England *to encourage our Trade in all its Branches.*

And as I thought that any Light given in these Affairs, how small soever, may possibly be of some Service to this Country, so I have with the same View suggested several Hints for the farther Improvement of our Trade and Manufactures.

BRITISH MUSEUM

A LIST OF LORDS, GENTLEMEN and OTHERS,

Who having ESTATES, EMPLOYMENTS *and* PENSIONS *in* Ireland, *ſpend the ſame abroad. Together with an Eſtimate of the Yearly Value of the ſame, as taken in the Months of* May *and* June 1729.

The Lords and Gentlemen of Eſtate, are divided into Three Claſſes.

FIRST CLASS comprehends thoſe, who live conſtantly abroad, and are ſeldom, or never ſeen in *Ireland*.

SECOND CLASS comprehends thoſe, who live generally abroad, and viſit *Ireland* now and then for a Month or two.

THIRD CLASS takes in thoſe, who live generally in *Ireland*, but were occaſionally abſent at the time the ſaid Liſt was taken, either for Health, Pleaſure, or Buſineſs; but their Number is commonly the ſame: for, if ſome come home, others go abroad, and ſupply their Places.

FIRST CLASS comprehends those who live constantly abroad.

LORDS,	Yearly Value of their Estates spent abroad. l. s. d.
Aran,	11000
Blundel,	2300
Boyne,	1700
Burlington,	17000
Caſtlehaven,	800
Caſtlecomber,	3000
Clanrickard,	3000
Darnly,	5000
Delvin,	400
Digby,	2500
Donegal's Eſtate,	4000
Gowran, in Eſtate and Intereſt of Money,	7000
Grandiſon,	6000
Lord *Archibald Hamilton*,	1000
Inchiquin,	3000
Kingſale,	800
Limington,	2300
Londonderry, in Eſtate and Intereſt of Money,	1200
Malton,	6000
Orrery,	4000
Peaſely,	1800
Palmerſton,	3000
Percival,	3000
Shannon,	2500
Thomond,	6000
Strafford,	600
Weymouth,	2000

LADIES,

	Yearly Value of their Estates spent abroad.
	l. *s.* *d.*
LADIES,	
Lady *Drogheda*,	1100
Dowager Lady Doneraill,	1500
Lady *Jane Holt*,	400
Lord *Effingham Howard's* Daughters,	1000
Dowager Lady *Kildare*,	1200
Lady *Jones*, Widow,	600
Lady *Betty Molyneux*,	1100
Lady *Pine*,	400
Late Lord *Ranelagh's* Daughters, *viz.* Lady *Coningesby*, Lady *Katherine Jones*, and Lady *Kildare*,	3000
GENTLEMEN,	
Francis Annesley of *Lincoln's-Inn-Fields*,	1000
Randal Adams,	600
—— *Barret* of *Clowniſh*,	1200
Alderman *Beecher* of *Briſtol*,	1200
Dr. Berkeley *Dean of* Derry,	900
George Rodney Bridges,	800
Sir *Brook Bridges*,	1500
Thomas Brodrick,	2500
John Chicheſter, Brother of Lord *Donegal*,	1000
John Clayton of the County of *Cork*,	400
Sir *William Courtney* of *Devonſhire*,	8000
William Domvill of the County of *Dublin*,	1400
Joſeph Damer, in Eſtate and Intereſt of Money,	1800
Sir *Redmond Everard*, Bart.	1000
Col. *Foulks*,	1000

Eſquires.

	Yearly Value of their Estates spent abroad. l.	s.	d.
H. *Arthur Herbert* of *Oakly-Park*,	3000		
Mark Hill of *Loughbrickland*, —	600		
Mr. *Hobſon*, Eſtate in the County of *Down*, — — —	600		
Hugh Howard, — —	800		
Mr. *Hull*, in Eſtate and Intereſt of Money, — —	600		
Rev. *John Jackſon* of *Lancaſhire*,	400		
Sir *Richard Kennedy*'s Eſtate, —	1200		
Colonel *Loyde* of *England*, —	1000		
London Society and Company, in the County of *Derry*, yearly Income and Fines included,	8000		
James Macartney, —	2500		
Randal Macdonnel, County of *Clare*,	1400		
William Mitchel of *London*,	400		
The Honourable and Reverend Mr. *Henry Moore*, —	400		
Pleydell Morton, — —	1200		
—— *Murray* of *Broughton* in *Scotland*,	1000		
John Neal of *Coventry*, —	900		
Robert Needham of *Jamaica*, —	2300		
Sir *William Penn*'s Eſtate, —	1400		
John Pigott of *Somerſetſhire*, —	400		
—— *Plunkett* of *Dunſhaughlin*, —	700		
John Rawlinſon of *London*, Eſtate in the County of *Derry*, —	800		
General *Sabine*, — —	500		
Thomas Scawen of *London*,	2000		
The Honourable *Robert Shirly*,	2000		
Oliver St. John. — —	1400		
—— *Smith*, — —	6000		
Ralph Smith, Sen. — —	800		

Eſquires.

Sir

	Yearly Value of their Eſtates ſpent abroad, l.	s.	d.
Sir *John Stanley*	1200		
Edward Southwell, Secretary of State,	3500		
John Temple,	3000		
— *Trenchard*, County of *Limerick*,	1500		
— *Warringford*,	400		
Sir *Thomas Webſter*,	800		
Sir *Cecil Wray*,	2300		
Several Cities and Corporations in *England* have Eſtates in *Ireland* to the yearly Value of	1500		

Eſquires.

GENTLEWOMEN,

Widow *Bagnal*,	1800		
Miſs *Edwards*, in Eſtate and Intereſt of Money,	7000		
Mr. *Pine*'s Daughters,	1200		
Widow *Putland*, Senior.	1000		
Widow *Titchburn*,	400		
Mrs. *Vernon*,	800		

SECOND CLASS comprehends thoſe who live generally abroad, and viſit *Ireland* now and then for a Month or two.

LORDS,

A *Bercorn*,	2000		
Angleſey,	7000		
arrymore,	5000		
rbery	5500		
ane,	4000		
tz-William,	5000		
ingſton,	2000		
merick,	3500		

Middle-

	Yearly Value of their Estates spent abroad.
	l. *s.* *d.*
Middleton,	1500
Montrath,	4000
Mountjoy, Estate,	2500
Molesworth,	1000
Ranelagh,	1800
Shelburn, Estate and Interest of Money,	9000
Ladies,	
Lady *Mary Coolley* and her Dauhgters,	1200
Lady *Phil. Pratt*,	500
Gentlemen,	
Basil Ball,	1600
William Balfour,	600
—— *Butler* of *Ballyragget*,	1500
Robert Colvil,	5000
Lieutenant-General *Crofts*,	500
——*Darcy*,	800
—— *Dowdall*,	400
Capt. *Charles Echlyn*,	1200
Mr. *Fox*, and Mr. *Lane*, late Lord *Lanesborough*, Estate,	3000
Joseph Gascoigne,	1800
John Hamilton,	500
Sir *Gustavus Humes*,	2000
Brigadier *Jones*,	500
Sir *Randal Mac-Donnel*,	400
Mr. —— *Michlethwait*,	600
The Honourable *Capel Moore*,	1000
The Honourable *Robert Moore*,	400
——*Martin*, out of *Bagnal*'s Estate,	1000
Sir *Edward O Brien*, Bart.	2500
Henry O Brien's Estate,	2500

Esquires.

	Yearly Value of their Eſtates ſpent abroad.
	l. *s.* *d.*
Sir *Thomas Pendergaſt*,	2000
Patrick Segrave,	400
Oliver St. George,	2500
—— *Sloan*, in Eſtate and Intereſt of Money,	800
Richard Whitched,	1500
Benjamin Woolley, of *London*,	900
Mr. ——*Wogan* of *Racoffy*,	400

Eſquires.

THIRD CLASS comprehends thoſe who live generally in *Ireland*, but were occaſionally abſent in *May*, *June*, and *July* 1729, for Health, Pleaſure, or Buſineſs.

LORDS,	
B*Ellew*,	600
Bleſſington,	800
Forbes,	1200
Kingſtand,	2000
Ikerin,	2000
LADIES,	
Lady *Kerry*,	500
Lady *Tyrone*,	800
GENTLEMEN,	
Francis Bernard, junior,	1200
—— *Brown* of the *Neale*,	500
Francis Burton of the County of *Clare*,	1000
Capt. *Thomas Burton*,	400

Eſquires.

Sir

	Yearly Value of their Estates spent abroad.
	l. *s.* *d.*
Sir *John Burne* Baronet,	2500
Reverend Dr. *Clayton*,	600
William Conolly, junior.	1000
John Cliff,	600
The Reverend Mr. *Cotterell*, Dean of *Raphoe*.	1000
Henry Cunningham,	800
——— *Dillon*, Son of Sir *John Dillon*,	400
Robert Dickson, Counsellor at Law,	800
Sir *Compton Domvill*,	1500
——— *Dodwell*,	800
Henry Downing,	400
Richard Edgworth,	500
William Forward,	1000
Charles Ford,	600
Sir *John Freke*,	1800
Arthur Gore, of the County of *Clare*,	1000
Capt. *Arthur Gore*,	600
William Graham of *Drogheda*,	3000
Sir *Standish Hartstongue*,	1200
Edward Hussey,	400
Richard Lehunt of the County of *Wexford*,	800
George Macartney of *Belfast*,	500
John Maxwell of the City of *Dublin*,	2000
Sir *Richard Mead*, Baronet.	3000
Mark Morgan, of the County of *Meath*,	800
George Ogle,	600
Philip Percival,	1400
Periam Poole of the *Queen's County*,	1000
Richard Reed of the County of *Kilkenny*,	400

Esquires.

——— *Rigg*

	Yearly Value of their Eſtates ſpent abroad.
	l. *s.* *d.*
—*Riggs*,	1000
Arthur Stafford, alias *Geoghegan*,	800
—*Tenniſon*,	400
—*Tasborough*,	600
William Wall, of the County of *Waterford*,	1500
Richard Warburton of *Garryhinch*,	1000
Richard Weiſly of *Dangan*.	3000

Eſquires.

GENTLEWOMEN,

Mrs. *Drelincourt*,	400
Widow *Stafford*, junior,	500
Widow *Uſher*,	800
Widow *Weiſly*,	2000

Spent abroad yearly by thoſe whoſe yearly Income is under 400 *l. per Annum* in *Ireland*; and who either live for the moſt part in *England*, or go thither occaſionally for Pleaſure or Health,	40000

Half of theſe are ſuppoſed to belong to the FIRST CLASS, and the other Half equally to the other TWO.

N. B. There is no Perſon mention'd in the Preceding Liſt, whoſe Eſtate is ſuppoſed to be leſs than 400 *l. per Annum.*

The travelling Expences of Dealers and Traders, who go over yearly, in great Numbers, from *Ireland* to *England*, to buy or ſell Commodities,	3000

Yearly Value spent abroad.

	l.	s.	d.
Spent yearly in the Education of the Children of Proteſtants, and Men of Fortune at *Oxford* and *Cambridge*, and the Schools of *England*, and of the Children of Papiſts in Foreign Colleges, — — —	8000		
Spent yearly by young Students at the ſeveral Inns of Court, — — —	5000		
Spent on Law-Suits, on Appeals to the Houſe of Lords, Courts of Delegates, and on Writs of Error to the Court of King's-Bench in *England*, and for the Advice of Lawyers there on other Occaſions yearly, — — —	9000		
Spent in Attendance, and Applications for Employments Civil and Military, and other Buſineſs, — —	8000		

PROFITS of EMPLOYMENTS ſpent abroad.

Poſt-Office *per Ann.* — —	6000		
Vice-Treaſurer, Lord *Falmouth* and Mr. *Edgecomb*, — — —	8000		
Lord Treaſurer, Lord *Burlington*, —	365		
Commiſſioners of the Revenue, four generally abſent, — — —	4000		
Auditor-General, Lord *Naſſau Paulet*,	1000		
Maſter of the Rolls, Lord *Berkeley*, —	1000		
Maſter of the Ordnance, Marquis *Montandre*, — — — —	800		
Chief Remembrancer, Lord *Palmerſton*,	1200		
Secretary to the Lord-Lieutenant, —	2000		
Clerk of the Pells, Mr. *Dodington*, —	1600		

	Yearly Value spent abroad. l. s. d.
Secretary of State, *Edward Southwell* Esq;	600
Clerk of the Council, Mr. *Pulteney*,	600
Master of the Revels, Mr. *Hopkins*	300
Searcher of the Port of *Dublin*, Mr. *Webster*,	400
Comptroller of *ditto*, Mr. *Eldred*,	300
Register of Forfeitures, and Clerk of the Quit-Rent Office, Mr. *Coppleston*,	700
Clerk of the Crown for *Lienster*, Mr. *Witchcot*,	250
Clerk of the Crown for *Munster*, Mr. *Osburn*,	200
Clerk of the Crown for *Ulster*,	200
Wine-Taster, and Keeper of the King's Houses, Mr. *Delafay*,	500
Governour of *Cork*, Mr. *Jefferys*,	365
Governour of *Duncannon-Fort*, Lieutenant-General *Honywood*,	365
Governour of *Kinsale*, Lieutenant General *Humphrey Gore*,	365
Remitted to *Greenwich-Hospital*, Sixpence *per* Month for every Sailor,	400

It appears by the Establishment for the Year 1727, given in to Parliament;

That the Civil List Pensions amounted to 36,047 *l.* 18 *s.* which, clear of four Shillings in the Pound, came to 28,838 *l.* 6 *s.* 4 *d.* whereof we may very well suppose four Parts in five to be spent abroad, — 23070 13 1

	Yearly Value spent abroad. l.	s.	d.
That the Military Pensions amounted to 6,409 *l.* 15 *s.* two thirds thereof spent abroad,	4273	3	4
That the Establishment for General Officers was 16,500 *l. per Ann.* two thirds spent abroad,	11000		
That the Pay of all the Commission'd Officers of 18 Battallions of Foot, four Regiments of Horse, and six of Dragoons, (the Forces now in the Kingdom) amounts by an exact Computation to 116,508 *l. per Ann.* one fourth Part thereof spent abroad,	29127		
That the Establishment for Half-Pay Officers amounted to 22,900 *l. per Ann.* one-fourth Part thereof spent abroad,	5725		
For Officers Widows 3,600 *l. per Ann.* a third Part spent abroad,	1200		
French Pensions 12,800 *l. per Ann.* a fifth Part spent abroad,	2560		
Sent to *England*, one Year with another, to buy Recruit Horses, for ten Regiments of Horse, and Dragoons,	4000		
Spent in *England* in raising Recruits for the Foot Service *per Ann.*	2000		
Pay remitted to *Gibraltar* for three Regiments, Exchange included,	30000		
Perquisites on clothing 31 Regiments, at 500 *l.* each Regiment yearly, comes to 15,500 *l.* two thirds thereof spent abroad,	10333	6	8

Carry'd

	Yearly Value spent abroad. l. s. d.
Carry'd off yearly by Adventurers to *America*, who may be reckon'd to be 3000 in Number, and to carry off 10 *l.* each, one with another,	30000
Remitted out of the Kingdom yearly, on the Account of	
Insurance of Ships and Goods,	
Assurance from Fire,	
For Religious Uses, by Papists,	
For Freight of Shipping,	
For News-Papers from *England*,	
For Coach and Saddle-Horses from *England*,	
For Gold and Silver Watches, Precious Stones, Rich Toys, fine *Flanders* Lace, Gold and Silver Lace, Rich Clothes, and Furniture of all Sorts, which are suppos'd not to appear in the Custom-House Books.	
'Tis difficult to ascertain the Value of all these Articles; but we may reasonably suppose them to amount, yearly, unto	20000
TOTAL of the present Annual Remittances out of the Kingdom,	627799 3 1

Yearly Value ſpent abroad.

A GENERAL ABSTRACT of the Quantity of Money drawn out of the Kingdom yearly, *viz.*

	l.	*s.*	*d.*
By thoſe of the Firſt Claſs,	204200	00	0
By thoſe of the Second Claſs,	91800	00	0
By thoſe of the Third Claſs,	54000	00	0
By thoſe, whoſe Income is under 400 *l. per Ann.*	40000	00	0
By thoſe, who have Employments in *Ireland*,	31510	00	0
For the Education of Youth, Law-Suits, Attendance, and by Dealers,	33000	00	0
By the Penſioners on the Civil Liſt,	23070	13	1
By thoſe on the Military Eſtabliſhment,	67658	10	0
By *French* Penſioners,	2560	00	0
By Remittances to *Gibraltar*,	30000	00	0
By Adventurers to *America*	30000	00	0
On Account of ſeveral Articles mention'd in the laſt Paragraph,	20000	00	0
	627799	03	1

SUP-

SUPPLEMENT.

I Shall, by way of Supplement, take Notice of ſome additional Articles, which ought to be taken into Conſideration, whenever we come to compute the Quantity of Money yearly drawn out of the Kingdom, and which could not ſo properly be brought under any of the Heads mention'd in the preceding Liſt.

1*ſt*, We are to obſerve, that a great many Eſtates, and Woods, have, of late, been ſold in *Ireland*, and all the Purchaſe-Money at once carry'd into *England*. And, which is farther remarkable, ſome Eſtates have, in the Compaſs of a few Years, been ſold again, and all the Purchaſe-Money ſent away a ſecond Time.

2*d*, That great Sums of Money are yearly ſent abroad, to diſcharge old Debts, contracted by Perſons now reſiding in *Ireland*.

2*d*, Tho' ſome of the aforeſaid Perſons, may ſpend leſs abroad than here rated, yet many of them ſpend much more than their yearly Income; which Debts muſt be paid in *England*, after they come to reſide in *Ireland*.

4*th*, That ſeveral Eſtates of *Iriſh* Landlords, who live abroad, have, of late, been much rais'd, and large Fines taken and remitted to them; and, many more Eſtates will not fail to be rais'd to the Heighth, as the old Leaſes expire, and thereby encreaſe their yearly Draughts upon us.

5*th*, That ſeveral Perſons, who live abroad, have large Mortgages on Eſtates in *Ireland*; the Intereſt-Money

Money whereof is conſtantly return'd to them in *England*.

6th, MANY of our young Lords and Gentlemen, in a few Years after they come to Age, ſquander, in other Countries, all the ready Money which had been ſaved for them, by their Guardians, in their Minorities.

7th, GREAT Numbers live abroad, whoſe Names or Eſtates for want of due Information, are here omitted.

8th, THERE is, yearly, carried out of this Kingdom, about 60000 *l.* by the Colliers of *England* and *Scotland*, who take very little elſe, but ready Money, in Return for their Coals. But this Point will more properly come to be conſider'd hereafter, upon the Article of Trade.

I ſhall now beg leave to take notice of the Method and Caution made uſe of, in forming and drawing up the ſaid Liſt; and to obſerve, that the beſt Endeavours have not been wanting, to procure, from Receivers, Agents and others, an exact Information of the clear yearly Income of the Eſtates of the Perſons mention'd in the ſaid Liſt, and of the Sums of Money they may be reaſonably ſuppoſed to ſpend abroad; and that Care has been taken in the Computation, to be always under the real Value, in order to make Allowances for Loſs to Agents, Quit-Rents, and other Charges.

WE are farther to obſerve, That the Eſtates of many of the ſaid Perſons are much larger than here ſet down; *but Part thereof being applied to the Payment of Jointures, Rent-Charges, and Debts, or otherwiſe ſpent or ſaved at home*, we have not therefore ſet forth the full Value of them, but ſo much only as is ſuppoſed to be ſpent abroad.

THO' ſome of our Gentlemen ſtay abroad but a ſhort time, yet, when we would compute how much

much Money is yearly drawn out of the Kingdom, we are oblig'd to take Notice of all thoſe Perſons, who are at any one Time abſent; for if ſome come home, others do not fail to go abroad, and ſupply their Places.

If through Miſinformation, the yearly Income or Remittances of ſome Perſons, mention'd in the ſaid Liſt, ſhould happen to be over-rated; that is amply made up by others, who will be found upon Enquiry, to be undercharg'd; and indeed, many make the annual Drain of Money, ariſing from the aforeſaid Articles, to be Two Hundred Thouſand Pounds more, than herein eſtimated.

C OB-

OBSERVATIONS

On the Preceding

LIST:

TOGETHER

With a View of the Trade of Ireland, *and the great Benefits which accrue to* England *thereby. With ſome* HINTS *for the farther Improvement of the ſame.*

MONEY being the Meaſure of all Commerce, a certain Quantity thereof is neceſſary, for the carrying on the Trade of each Country, in Proportion to the Buſineſs thereof.

'Tis generally eſtimated, that the current Species of *England*, is at preſent twelve or fifteen Millions *Sterl.* and that ſo much is neceſſary for the Support of its foreign and domeſtick Trade; in which 'tis much aſſiſted, by many Millions more, in Bank-Notes, Bank, and South-Sea Stock, and other publick Securities, which being eaſily transferred from one to another, have, in Effect, the Uſe and Conveniency of Money.

'Tis reaſonable to ſuppoſe, that the Quantity of Species, requiſite to carry on the Trade of *Ireland* with Eaſe and Advantage, cannot be leſs than a Million

Million or 800,000 *l.* if we conſider, that the yearly Value of our Exports is at a Medium 1,042,000 *l.* and of our Imports 864,000 *l.* that the publick Revenue and Charge of the Eſtabliſhment are each near 500,000 *l. per Annum*, and that our Rents and domeſtick Commerce amount yearly to the Value of ſeveral Millions; all which Articles muſt be paid in ready Money, and therefore can hardly be ſuppoſed to require leſs than 800,000 *l.* for the convenient Management thereof.

'Tis very probable, that we were poſſeſſed of ſo much Coin in the Year 1700; and that the ſame was in a great meaſure owing to the War, that happen'd at the Time of the Revolution; which, tho' it laid the Country waſte, yet brought in a great deal of Money for Payment of the Armies, which continuing to circulate among us, gave Life to all Buſineſs, and much ſooner than could be expected, retriev'd the Affairs of *Ireland*: But the Act of Reſumption, ſoon after taking place, ſwept away at once about 600,000 *l.* of our Treaſure; under which Loſs, we languiſh'd for ſome Years, and did not fully recover our ſelves, till about the Year 1715, when the Ballance of Trade running much in our Favour, and our Remittances abroad being moderate, there was no Want of Money or Credit for the Support of Buſineſs; but on the contrary, the Intereſt of Money was lower'd, and the Price of Lands grew high.

Thus we continued for ſome Time in a tolerable Condition; but of late, that Treaſure, which was the Fruit and Acquiſition of many Years, hath gradually flow'd from us; which makes us daily more ſenſible of the Scarcity of Money, which could formerly be eaſily had at 6 *l. per Cent.* Intereſt, but now cannot, without ſome Difficulty, be had at 7 *l.* This Want of Money in the Kingdom, throws a Damp upon all Buſineſs; Manufacturers can't be ſet

to Work, Materials purchas'd, or Credit ſubſiſt; and People, who are willing to ſupport themſelves by their Induſtry, are left to ſtruggle with Poverty, for Want of Employment.

We are not now at a loſs to point out the principal *Source* of all our Misfortunes, and the chief *Cauſe* of all this Diſtreſs. It appears plainly, from the Liſt of *Abſentees*, and the Eſtimate of the Quantity of Species they may be reaſonably ſuppos'd to draw yearly out of the Kingdom, that no other Country labours under ſo waſteful a Drain of its Treaſure, as *Ireland* does at preſent, by an annual Remittance of above 600,000 *l.* to our *Gentlemen* abroad, without the leaſt Conſideration, or Value return'd for the ſame: This is ſo great a Burthen upon us, that, I believe, there is not, in Hiſtory, an Inſtance of any one Country paying ſo large a yearly Tribute to another.

Countries that abound in Mines of Gold and Silver, are enabled, by the Bounty of Nature, to bear an Exportation of their Bullion: But others, which want this Natural Produce, and have no other Way of getting or keeping Money, but, by having the Ballance of Trade in their Favour, ſuffer extremely, whenever they want Coin ſufficient for circulating their Buſineſs.

It is believed by many, who underſtand our Money Affairs, that there is leſs Species now in the Kingdom, than was at any one Time ſince the *Revolution*, if not ſince the *Reſtoration*. The moſt Sanguine do not reckon, that we have 400,000 *l.* now remaining: If ſo, it is impoſſible to ſubſiſt much longer under ſuch a Drain; for, if the Quantity of Money exported, vaſtly over-ballances any Income or Gain we have by Trade, (as plainly appears by examining the ſaid Liſt, the Ballance of our Trade herein ſet forth, and a conſtant Courſe of Exchange againſt us) it evidently follows, that all our remaining

maining Species will, in a little time, be carry'd off; The Conſequence whereof will be, that we ſhall be utterly diſabled from carrying on our foreign and domeſtick Commerce, paying Rents, or diſcharging the publick Eſtabliſhment.

'Tis to be fear'd, this Misfortune will fall upon us much ſooner than could be thought of; ſince we are credibly inform'd, that Miſs *Edwards*'s Eſtate in this Kingdom, ſaid to be worth 150,000 *l.* is immediately to be ſold, and the Purchaſe-Money ſent away; that a *Noble Lord*, of the greateſt Fortune here, is to have 80,000 *l.* remitted to him, by Sale of Part of his Eſtate, and that ſeveral others are ſelling, or mortgaging their Lands for large Sums: if all theſe Deſigns ſhould ſoon take place, they will be ſufficient to carry off all the circulating Caſh of the Kingdom in a very ſhort time.

'Tis true, this Evil is of ſuch a nature, as in a little time it muſt cure itſelf; for if the Demands of our *Abſentees* greatly exceed all our Gain by Trade, and amount to as much yearly, as the whole current Coin of the Kingdom; there will be ſoon nothing left for them to draw away, and they muſt be forc'd to return to their Native Country; which muſt neceſſarily be the Caſe, unleſs (which can't reaſonably be ſuppos'd) they ſhall think it a leſs Grievance to ſtarve abroad.

When Things come to this Extremity, great muſt be the Calamity of all, even of thoſe who are innocent, and have not had the leaſt ſhare in bringing this Evil upon us; for then no Rents can be paid in Money, but all in Kind; no ſort of Trade can be carried on, but by bartering one Commodity for another: The Price of Lands muſt univerſally fall, the Army muſt be broke, or live on free Quarters; and the Eſtabliſhment, and all Profeſſions muſt ſink for want of Money to ſupport them.

We ſhall be then reduc'd to the Condition of ſome of our *Plantations*, out of which, for the ſame Cauſes, all Money is carry'd off as faſt as it enters, and nothing left current but Paper, by the Authority of Government, under a great Diſcount.

If our *Gentlemen* abroad were the only Sufferers by their Conduct, we ſhould have no reaſon to complain; but it happens in this caſe, that tho' they bring this *Evil* upon us, they will be the laſt that will feel the Effects of it; but, at length, muſt ſhare the ſame Fate with ourſelves.

I ſhall, in what follows, conſider the Ballance of the Trade of *Ireland*, and how far it may enable us to ſupport theſe Remittances abroad; it will appear clearly from thence, that whatever Gain we had formerly, the ſame has decreas'd of late Years conſiderably, and falls much ſhort of what is ſufficient to anſwer the Demands of our *Gentlemen* abroad; inſomuch, that the Ballance of our whole Trade for the Year 1726, inſtead of being in our favour, was 12,000 *l.* againſt us, occaſion'd by a great Importation of foreign Commodities.

'Tis melancholly to obſerve, that now we are labouring under great Diſadvantages in Trade, and ſtruggling with Penury and Want; the Humour of living and ſpending abroad, ſtill encreaſes among our Men of *Quality* and *Station*, and has even infected our *Ladies*, who may be ſooner found out at *London*, *Paris*, *Rome*, or any foreign Place of Expence, than at home.

If thoſe *Gentlemen*, who now draw out of the Kingdom yearly 600,000 *l.* could be prevail'd upon, to ſpend the ſame at home, the Advantages and good Effects thereof, would be ſoon viſible in the Improvement of Lands and Houſes; in the Increaſe of People, Arts, and Manufactures, in a greater Produce in the Exciſe and Cuſtoms, and in a better

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Support of the Government: Whereas now by the means of our *Nobility* and *Gentry* deserting their own Country, and spending all abroad, our People are left without Employment, and are forced to shift to foreign Countries, even to *America*, to get a Livelihood; and the publick Funds fall very short of the necessary Establishment, and must grow worse every Day; so that, in time of Peace, we shall be driven to the Necessity, either of lessening the Establishment, or increasing our Taxes, without any Ability to pay them.

'Tis too much in reason for these *Gentlemen* to expect, that we shall patiently bear with the Loss of our Trade, Loss of our Money, and Additional Taxes; for no other Reason, but to gratify the Vanity of those, who have thus wantonly abandon'd their Country, and riot abroad in its Ruin: There is no way left to save us, but by obliging them to live at home, or making them pay for living abroad.

Perhaps some may imagine, that our *Absentees* have great Encouragement to go and spend their Fortunes abroad, that they are received with open Arms, and preferr'd to Places of Profit, Honour, and Power; but alas! if we examine the said List, we shall find, that there is not any one therein mention'd, born and bred in *Ireland*, except *Hugh Howard* Esq; who has got any Pension, any Civil or Military Employment by living abroad; not even of those who are Members of either House of Parliament of *Great Britain*, though there are several in the said List, who have put themselves to Expence, to obtain the Honour of sitting there: so little are they regarded in those Countries, where they spend all their Fortunes. The Case indeed is otherwise with the *North-Britons*, who lose nothing by going into other Countries, whatever they gain there; 'tis true, there are two or three *Lords* in the said List, who have Em-

ployments abroad; but these *honourable* Persons were neither bred nor born in *Ireland*, and owe their Preferments to their Interests and Alliances abroad, and not to any Estates they happen to have in *Ireland*.

Nor can we think it strange, that our *Absentees* are thus serv'd; for how can Persons, who can get no Employment in their own *Country*, by virtue of the Interest they have there, expect to be prefer'd in another, where they have no Interest at all; perhaps they may reckon much on their personal Abilities to serve the Government there, and to be prefer'd for their Services; but we don't find, that *any one* of them has as yet been distinguish'd by any *considerable Preferment, or even any Preferment at all*.

We may be soon cur'd of any vain Expectations of that kind, if we consider that our Country-men are so far from being caress'd, that they are generally slighted and hated in other Countries: It must be own'd, that the *Poverty* of some of our *Natives*, and the *Extravagance* of many of our Men of *Fortune*, have brought us into *Discredit* and *Contempt*; so that of all Nations, we have the Misfortune to be the least regarded by *those*, who get most by us: And yet such is our *Folly*, that many of our People chuse to spend their Estates in a mean obscure way abroad, under the Contempt and Hatred of all about them, rather than live at home in *Plenty, Honour and Esteem*.

I wish, we could say, that these Gentlemen, by living abroad, had any way contributed to the Interest of *Ireland*; but, I am afraid, they have little Merit of this kind to plead: for except a very few Persons, who upon all occasions have been willing, industrious, and able to serve us, (and which we shall ever with the greatest Gratitude acknowledge) we know of none of our *Absentees*, who, upon Emergency, where-

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in the Interest of *Ireland* was concern'd, have had Spirit or Disposition, Interest or Weight, or even a sufficient Knowledge of the Affairs of their own Country to do it service; they are generally either Strangers to the Circumstances and Interests of *Ireland*, or have no Power or Qualifications to be of use to it.

If we enquire into the Motives of this Conduct of our Gentlemen, so injurious to their own and their Country's Interest; we shall find, that a luxurious Manner of Living, an Affectation of imitating the Nobility and Gentry of other Countries in their Expences, together with the Largeness of their Fortunes, are the principal Motives of their spending all their Estates abroad; which they seldom fail to incumber with great Debts, and frequently sell, either to gratify their present Vanity, or pay for past Follies.

'Tis a *melancholy Observation*, and fit to be remembred, that almost all the Estates, which of late Years have been sold in *Ireland*, have belong'd to such of our *Gentlemen*, as brought themselves under a Necessity of selling, to discharge Debts contracted abroad; we can justly date the Ruin of several great *Families*, from the fatal Period of their going to live abroad; and we may now prophetically pronounce the like Fate of several others, who have of late, or shall hereafter follow the same Course of living, *That their Lands shall pass away to Strangers, and their Names be no more heard of.*

The Extinction of such Families may probably be no hurt to the Publick, but then the Value of their Estates spent abroad, is certainly lost to the Kingdom; an *English* Prodigal injures none but his own Family, since whatever he squanders, goes into the Pockets of others of the same Country: but an *Irish Spendthrift*, who commonly makes *London* or *Paris* the Scene of his Extravagance; not only deprives his Family, but his Country also, of the full Value of all he consumes.

It has been obſerv'd (as another ill Effect of living abroad) concerning ſuch of our *Gentlemen* of Fortune as happen to marry there, that they and their Poſterity are for the moſt Part loſt to this Kingdom: 'tis ſhocking to an *Engliſh* Lady, to think of living in ſuch a poor deſpis'd Place as *Ireland* is; and if ſhe has not made it an Article of Marriage, as it often is the Caſe, ſhe ſeldom fails, ſome other Way to prevail on an *eaſy* Husband to forſake his Country; and takes care to breed up her Children in the ſame Averſion: and from that time forward, we hear no more of them, but by their conſtant drawing all their Rents from hence, and racking their poor Tenants: Such *Deſerters, and others alſo who can be prevail'd upon by their* Iriſh *Ladies to live abroad*, prove the worſt Enemies to *Ireland*, by laying it under a continual yearly Pillage to their Vanity and Luxury, without contributing the leaſt Farthing towards the Support of the Government.

And here I cannot but take notice of the Conduct of ſome of our *Gentlemen*, in ſending their Children to other Countries for Education; 'tis certain, if they were better appriz'd of the Manner of Living, Studying, and Performances requir'd of them abroad, they would believe it much better to educate them in our Colleges at home; where a greater Strictneſs and Attendance to Duties, more Reading and Studying, and generally better Scholars, in proportion to their Numbers, and leſs Corruption, are to be found: this Humour proceeding from a want of Judgment and Obſervation, is often attended with this Conſequence, that the young *Gentlemen* educated abroad, either take a Liking to other Countries, and ſo are for ever loſt to their own, if their Fortune will enable them to live there: or if they return home, perhaps bring nothing with them, but the Follies and Luxuries of our Neighbours, by which we ſuffer too much already.

If some think it a Hardship, that many of our *Employments* are given to other People; we all have just Reasons to complain, that those Employments are served by Deputies, and of consequence the greatest Part of the Profits thereof carry'd out of the Kingdom and spent abroad. 'Tis our Misfortune that too many of the *English*, who obtain Places in this Country, seldom favour us with their Company in the enjoyment of them. 'Tis true, we have one Visit from them, when they come over to qualify themselves here, and take Possession of their Preferments; tho' some of them will not even be at so much trouble, but obtain Acts of Parliament in *England*, to dispense with their Qualifications in *Ireland*; and after this beginning we see no more of them, but their Names in our publick Establishments: Of which we have a remarkable Instance in one, who having obtain'd an Employment in *Ireland*, landed in *Dublin* on a *Saturday* Evening, went next Day to a Parish-Church and receiv'd the Sacrament; on *Monday* Morning he took the Oaths in the Courts, and in the Afternoon set Sail for *England* again, and we never saw more of him.

But as to *those* who get Preferment here, and live and settle with us, we have no Cause to repine; they become one with us, heartily espouse the Interest of the Country, and are in all Respects an Advantage to it; we can't but remember, that a great many considerable Families now in the Kingdom, are the Descendants of such who came hither for Preferment; and we must be so just as to acknowledge, that those *Englishmen* who are promoted to the highest Preferments in the *Church* and the *Law* in *Ireland*, generally attend their Functions here, and dwell among us.

The greatest Hardship we suffer on account of the Pensions on our Establishment, is, that for the most

part they are spent abroad. Taxes spent at home do not impoverish us, tho' private Persons may suffer in the Payment of them: but, whatever is spent abroad, is a general Loss to the Kingdom.

Nor can we altogether excuse the *Military Officers* from contributing to the Impoverishment of this Country. Of the many General Officers on our Establishment, very few of them are at any time to be found here, though they are perhaps the only Generals in *Europe*, in full Pay in time of Peace; and if at any time any of them are order'd to review the Forces, which is the only part of Duty required of them, they expect to be allowed for that Service in *Ireland*, which does not last above six Weeks, or two Months, 300 *l.* or 500 *l.* over and above their Pay as General, which is as much as any Lieutenant-General in the Foreign Service is allowed a Year; and this too, tho' they happen to come over at the same time to take Possession of a *good Government*. Many of our Colonels and Field-Officers, by the same Example, live for the most part abroad, to the disabling the poor People of this Kingdom, from paying that very Establishment by which they are maintain'd.

We are apt to complain of the Hardships laid upon us by *England* in respect to our Trade, and when we are pinch'd and in distress, charge our Misfortunes to the Account of other People: but if we truly examine all Circumstances, we shall find, that to *ourselves* we owe most of the Misfortunes and Inconveniencies we labour under; we owe them to our immoderate Consumption of Foreign Commodities at home, and extravagant Spending abroad.

'Tis not to be wonder'd at, that we should grow poorer every Day, under such an improfitable Issue of Money, which all the Labour of the People, and

Produce of the Country, with every Acquisition they can make, are not sufficient to supply. This is an *Evil* long complain'd of, and in our Days is increas'd to that degree, that we shall soon be utterly exhausted, unless some effectual Stop be put thereto; and, as it arises principally from *our selves*, 'tis much in our own power to redress it. With this View, I shall take notice of what Provisions our Ancestors made in this Case, and beg leave to suggest some Expedients that may remedy this growing Evil.

Sir *John Davis*, Attorney-General in *Ireland*, to King *James* the First, in his Historical Relations, has observ'd, that the Absence of *Great Lords*, (who having great Estates in *Ireland*, yet kept their continual Residence in *England*) was the principal Cause of the slow Progress made in the Reduction of *Ireland*, and of the frequent Rebellions of the *Irish*, who were thereby encourag'd to make Encroachments upon the *English*, and dispossess them of their Lands; and that the Kings of *England* were thereby put to the Necessity of sending Armies over, from Time to Time, to reduce and re-conquer several Provinces thereof.

For which Reason, an Ordinance had been made in *England*, the 3d of *Richard* the IId, 'against such 'as were absent from their Lands in *Ireland*, which 'gave two third Parts of the Profits thereof unto 'the King, until they return'd or plac'd a sufficient Number of Men to defend the same: Which 'Ordinance was put in Execution for many Years 'after, as appears by sundry Seizures made thereupon, in the Time of *Richard* the IId, and *Henry* the IV, Vth, and VIth, whereof there remain 'Records in the Remembrancer's Office here. A'mong the rest, the Duke of *Norfolk* himself was impleaded on this Ordinance, for two Parts of the 'Profits

"Profits of his Lands in the County of *Wexford*, in "the Time of *Henry* the VIth; and afterwards, on "the ſame Reaſon of State, all the Lands of the "Houſe of *Norfolk*, of the Earl of *Shrewsbury*, Lord "*Berkeley*, and others (who having Lands in *Ireland*, "yet reſided continually in *England*) were entirely "reſumed and veſted in the Crown, by the *Act of* "*Abſentees*, made the 28th of *Henry* the VIIIth.

Not only two third Parts of the Profits of the Lands of *Abſentees* were forfeited by Law; but, if any in *Office* went out of the Kingdom, his *Office* became void immediately: and therefore, in the 25th of *Henry* the VIth an Act paſs'd in *Ireland*, *That whereas it was in Doubt, if any Perſons in* Office *did paſs, by Sea, from one Port of* Ireland *to another, whether their* Offices *were void, as if they had paſs'd into* England, *or into other Lands out of* Ireland: It was thereby declar'd, *That any* Officer *may paſs, in Ships or Boats, from any part of* Ireland *to another, without forfeiting his* Office. And by another Act made in the ſame Year, entituled, *An Act concerning Abſentees*, it was ordain'd, *That if any of the King's Subjects or* Officers, *be abſent out of the Land of* Ireland, *by the Commandment of the King, or the Governor, or Council, that their Lands, Rents, or Offices by their Abſence, ſhall not be ſeiz'd, nor taken into the King's Hands, and their Offices ſhall not be void.*

These Acts do neceſſarily imply and preſuppoſe that there were then Acts in force, (which, though now not mention'd in our Statute-Books, as many now lying in the Rolls-Office, are not, yet poſſibly may be found in ſome of our Offices of Record) whereby the Offices, and two third Parts of the Profits of the Lands of *Abſentees*, were forfeited to the King. And the Statute of *Abſentees*, of the 28th of *Henry* the VIIIth, expreſly takes notice, That two Parts in three, of the Yearly Profits of the Lands of abſent Perſons, did, by reaſon of their *Abſence*,

ſence, belong to the King, by virtue of the Statutes for that purpoſe provided.

By an Act paſs'd, 10 *Car.* I. *Cap.* 21. it is enacted, *That all Perſons dwelling in* England *or elſewhere, who ſhall obtain Titles of Honour among the Nobility of* Ireland, *ſhall, tho' reſident in* England, *or elſewhere, contribute towards all publick Charges taxed by Parliament, rateably, and in ſuch manner, as others of their Rank, reſident in this Kingdom, are or ſhall be liable unto.*

These are the legal Proviſions which our Anceſtors made to prevent our Gentlemen of Eſtate and Office from living abroad; and we don't find they were ever repealed. Happy had it been for this Kingdom, if they had been duly executed! As this Evil grows daily upon us, and has already thrown the Nation into a waſteful Conſumption of all its Subſtance, 'tis high time to apply ſome Remedy to ſtop this immoderate Drain, which has reduced us almoſt to nothing: and, this can be done no other Way, than, in imitation of our Anceſtors, and of all wiſe Nations in the like Caſe, by taxing the Eſtates of thoſe, who, out of Wantonneſs and Luxury, chooſe to ſpend all the Profits thereof abroad, to the Impoveriſhment and Ruin of their Native Country. Unleſs ſome ſuch Method be taken, we ſhall ſoon be deprived of all the little Money left among us, be diſabled from anſwering the Charges of the Publick, and become a Burthen to *England*, as in former Times.

'Tis not reaſonable to expect, that the Security of the Proteſtant Religion and Intereſt in this Kingdom, the Proſperity of the People, and Safety of the Government, ſhould all give way to the Gratifications of our Gentlemen abroad: If they ſet ſo high a Value on their Foreign Pleaſures, that for the Enjoyment of them, the Kingdom muſt be brought into Ruin; 'tis to be hoped they ſhall not be indulged

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in all this, without contributing their Quota to
the Charges of the Publick. As the Caſe ſtands
preſent, while all others at home pay largely in
es, for the Maintenance of our Eſtabliſhment,
Gentlemen, tho' they have nothing but what
derive from this Country, yet pay not one Far
for the Support of it. They have indeed the
of paying, by their Foreign Conſumptions, the
of all other Countries but their own.

'Tis notorious, that ſome have drawn out of
Kingdom 100,000, ſome 200,000, and others
300,000 *l.* the laſt 20 Years; and yet the ſaid Per
have not contributed to the Support of the pub
Charges, as much as the meaneſt Perſons who pa
leaſt part of our Taxes.

It cannot be ſuppoſed, that our *Iriſh* Landlo
who live abroad, and conſume no Part of the
duce or Manufacture of their Country, pay the
Share of the Duties or Taxes thereof, or relieve
of its Poor, whoſe Miſeries they never ſee, or
any Improvements, who never mean to live a
us. Nay, their living abroad ſeems to have ſo
alienated their Affections from their Country,
hardened their Tempers towards it, that they a
all others, are remarkable for ſetting their E
at a *Rack-Rent*, ſo as hardly to allow a Livel
to their poor Tenants, by whom they are
ported.

There is no Country in *Europe*, which prod
and exports ſo great a Quantity of *Beef*, *Butter*,
low, *Hydes* and *Wool*, as *Ireland* does; and yet our
mon People are very poorly cloath'd, go bare-l
half the Year, and very rarely taſte of that Fleſh-m
with which we ſo much abound. We pinch our
in every Article of Life, and export more than
can well ſpare, with no other Effect or Advan
than to enable our Gentlemen and Ladies to live
luxuriouſly abroad.

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And *They* are not content to treat us thus, but add Inſult to ill Uſage; *they* reproach us with our Poverty, at the ſame Time, that *they* take away our Money; and can tell us, we have no Diverſions or Entertainments in *Ireland* for them, when they themſelves diſable us from having better, by withdrawing from us.

But 'tis to be hoped, that our Legiſlature will take care, that thoſe Gentlemen who ſpend their Fortunes abroad, and are thereby the greateſt, and almoſt only Cauſe of its Poverty and Diſtreſs, ſhall not be the only Perſons favoured, and exempted from paying the Taxes thereof.

A Tax of four Shillings in the Pound, on the Eſtates of *Abſentees*, would in all Likelihood remove the Evils complain'd of, by ſtopping in a great meaſure thoſe waſteful Drains of our Money; and would, in all Reſpects, anſwer the Occaſions of the Government: for if theſe Gentlemen will, notwithſtanding, ſtill live abroad, then a conſiderable Fund will ariſe out of their Eſtates to defray the publick Charges; and if they ſhould return home, then the publick Revenue will encreaſe by a greater Produce in the Exciſe and Cuſtoms, in Proportion as the home Conſumption would be enlarg'd by the ſpending of ſo much more Money among us: either Way the publick Occaſions would be ſupply'd; and the People reliev'd.

We may farther obſerve by the ſaid Liſt, that the great and continual Drain of Money out of this Kingdom, is from the large Eſtates; few Gentlemen of ſmall Fortunes, do, or can live abroad.

An Act of Gavelkind, whereby all Eſtates above 500 *l. per Ann.* ſhould deſcend, and be divided in equal Proportion, among all the Sons, as Coheirs, (with certain Reſervation, in favour of thoſe, who have Titles of Honour, of all preſent Family Settlements, and of eldeſt Sons, if it ſhould be thought

adviſeable) would, in a great meaſure, prevent ſo much living and ſpending abroad, and induce all the Sons to ſit down on their own reſpective Patrimonies, and improve them.

Such a Deſcent of Eſtates is certainly agreeable to the Law of Nature, for Children equally related to their Parents ought to be equally their Care; but our Law and Cuſtom, that gives the whole real Eſtate to the eldeſt Son, ſerves indeed no other Purpoſe, but to gratify the *Pride* and *Vanity* of Families, and leaves to the younger Children (often the moſt deſerving) a poor ſcanty Proviſion, or perhaps no Proviſion at all; whilſt the eldeſt Son is tempted, by the largeneſs of his Eſtate, to ſpend all luxuriouſly abroad, to the utter Ruin of the Family, and great Loſs of the Kingdom. *The Pride of Names and Families, is deſpiſed by all People of Senſe, and is rarely to be found but in poor Countrys, or Perſons of reduc'd Fortunes, and is generally accompany'd with the Want of real Merit.*

'Tis true Policy, and would tend much to the Benefit of remote Provinces, if Property were more equally divided among the Inhabitants; large overgrown Eſtates are generally conſumed, either abroad or at the Capital, and may be reckon'd as ſo much Tribute, in effect, drawn from the Provinces; while ſmall Fortunes are ſpent in the Place where they ariſe, with more Vertue and Advantage to the Country.

And till we can be ſo happy as to obtain ſuch an Act of Parliament, which would be greatly to the Benefit of this Kingdom; 'tis to be hoped, that Gentlemen of large Eſtates, out of Regard to their Poſterity, and the Good of their Country, will in their Marriage-Settlements, or laſt Wills, chooſe rather to bring in their younger Sons for a Share of their Lands, and ſo make many thriving young Families, than by giving all to one Son, to tempt him,

by

by extravagant living abroad, to put an End to the Family at once, as it hath often happened of late within the Knowledge and Obſervation of every one.

We muſt own, that there are many of our *Gentlemen* abroad, who wiſh well to their Country, and abhor all Thoughts of having a hand in the Ruin of it; who yet are not ſenſible how much this Kingdom is diſtreſſed, and ſuffers by their living and ſpending their Eſtates in other Countries: but when they come to reflect on the Conſequences thereof, and ſee the Poverty and Miſeries we labour under by their Means, and that they themſelves muſt at laſt ſhare therein, 'tis not to be doubted, but that they will, out of Regard to themſelves, and Compaſſion to their Country, change their Conduct, and act as becomes them.

We muſt not forget, that as on the one hand we ſuffer extremely by many, who have abdicated their Country, and have no Senſe of its Miſeries; ſo on the other hand, we lie under the greateſt Obligations to thoſe Lords and Gentlemen, who conſtantly live, and ſpend their Fortunes among us. If the Earl of *Kildare*, and others of our Nobility; Mr. *Conolly*, and others of our Commons, had not all along reſided among us, we ſhould long ſince have been exhauſted of all our Treaſure, and reduced to the greateſt Diſtreſs.

I can't forbear, on this Occaſion, to take Notice of one remarkable Inſtance, among many others, which Mr. *John Damer*, one of our richeſt Commoners, has lately given us, of the juſt Senſe he has of the Good of this Country, and how much he has the Intereſt thereof at heart. This Gentleman having no Proſpect of Iſſue to inherit his great Eſtate, in order to engage his Brother, (who, we may ſuppoſe, is deſign'd to be his Heir, and has ſeveral Children, and a large Fortune in *England*,) to

ſettle in this *Kingdom*, has agreed to make over to him at preſent a conſiderable Eſtate, with a fine Houſe well furniſhed thereon, upon this *expreſs Condition* and *Conſideration*, that he ſhall immediately bring over his Family and reſide among us: And I am inform'd his Brother has agreed thereto. By this means he has provided, that his Eſtate ſhall continue to be ſpent in the Kingdom, which otherwiſe would, in all probability, be conſtantly carry'd off after his Deceaſe; and it is to be hoped, that other Gentlemen, moved by the ſame Spirit, will ſhew themſelves the ſame true *Patriots*, and by their laſt Wills oblige their Heirs to reſide among us.

The Love of one's Country is ſeldom found in any remarkable Degree, but in thoſe, who live long in it, agreeable to the Intention of *Nature*, which diſpoſes all Men, and other Creatures, to a Fondneſs for thoſe Places in which they live; if this be the Caſe, I fear we can expect but little Good from thoſe, who, by forſaking their Country, muſt have loſt almoſt all natural Affection towards it; and this may teach us, who ſtill retain a Senſe of the Duty we owe our Country, to be very cautious, on all future Elections of Parliament-Men, or on any other Occaſions, how we pay any Regard to thoſe, who do not live conſtantly among us. It muſt be of Service, to take publick Notice of thoſe Actions, which tend both to the Good and Hurt of one's Country; in order to excite us to the Practice of the Firſt, and prevent our being guilty of the Second.

Of the TRADE *of* IRELAND.

I SHALL now proceed to conſider the Trade of *Ireland*, in order to examine, whether the Ballance ariſing from thence, will enable us to anſwer thoſe great and conſtant Draughts upon us from abroad; and alſo to give ſuch a juſt Repreſentation of our Commercial Affairs, as that Gentlemen, by being better appriſed of the true State of their Country, may be thereby qualified to think on proper Methods and Schemes for improving the ſame; for ſurely nothing will ſo effectually enable Men to take right Meaſures for the Good of their Country, as to be rightly informed concerning the Trade and true Intereſt thereof.

I ſhall conſider our Trade under the following Heads.

Iſt, I ſhall examine what *Ireland* gains or loſes, both in reſpect of its general Trade with all the World, and of its particular Trade with the ſeveral Countries it has Dealings with.

IIdly, I ſhall particularly take Notice of the Countries we trade with, to moſt Advantage, or Diſadvantage.

IIIdly, I ſhall ſet forth the great Benefits, which accrue to *England* by the Trade of *Ireland*, and how much it is its Intereſt to encourage it.

IVthly, I ſhall offer ſome Hints for the better Improvement and Regulation of our Trade.

As to the firſt Head, we are to obſerve, that in order to form a right Judgment of the Trade of any Country, and whether it gains or loſes in its Commerce with any particular Nation, or its Traffick with all Countries, 'tis abſolutely neceſſary to be well inform'd how

how much Money that Country pays for its Imports, and receives for its Exports, for the Difference of both in Value, is the true Measure of Loss or Gain; if the Exports sell for more than is laid out in purchasing the Imports, or if the Imports cost more than the Exports amount to, the Difference will be returned in Specie, and is call'd the Ballance.

Tho' it must be confessed to be very difficult to come to an exact Knowledge of the true Value of all Goods Imported and Exported, in a Country that has an extensive Trade, and has loaded its Imports with high Duties; yet, I hope, we shall be thought to come very near the Truth, by the Means of those Enquiries and Calculations we have made, and especially by the Help of those *Abstracts*, which have been laid from Time to Time before the *House of Commons*, by the Officers of the *Custom-house*, who make up Yearly Accounts of the Quantity and Value of all Commodities Imported and Exported: and having made several Estimates and Observations from the said *Abstracts, and from Copies of the Custom-House Books, which I had an Opportunity of examining very carefully*, I shall present them to the Reader in one View for his better Information, judging them the best Foundation we can go upon for forming a just Estimate of our Trade, compar'd with other Nations; and the only Way to clear up the Mistakes and wrong Notions, which several entertain concerning our Trade with particular Countries: and as there are several Articles, not taken Notice of by the Officers of the *Custom-house*, which ought to be taken into Consideration, when we are drawing up the Ballances of our respective Trades, I shall endeavour to supply them in what follows.

An

An ACCOUNT of the Value of the Exports and Imports of *Ireland* for seven Years, ending the 24th of *March* 1720, taken from the *Custom-house Books* in *Dublin*.

In the Year	Value of Exports in Pounds *Sterl.*	Value of Imports.
1714	1529765	972688
1715	1067913	873044
1716	1255085	875566
1717	1180012	907160
1718	1115304	887758
1719	1038381	891678
1720	859581	683364
	8046041	6091258

	l.	*s.*	*d.*
Value of Exports at a Medium yearly, for said seven Years,	1149434	8	7
Value of Imports at a Medium yearly, for said seven Years,	870179	14	3½
Ballance yearly in favour of *Ireland*, for said seven Years,	279254	14	3½

An

An ACCOUNT of the Value of the Exports and Imports of *Ireland* for seven Years ending the 24th of *March* 1727.

In the Year	Value of Exports.			Value of Imports.		
	l.	*s.*	*d.*	*l.*	*s.*	*d.*
1721	986346	14	2	730558	10	9
1722	1074269	12	2	829367	17	2
1723	1090675	13	5	920802	11	6
1724	1053782	13	11	819761	13	3
1725	1026537	6	4	889832	18	5
1726	1017872	15	4	1030059	16	4
1727	1062319	10	9	830791	10	8
	7311804	06	01	6051174	18	1

	l.	*s.*	*d.*
Value of Exports at a Medium yearly, for said seven Years,	1044543	9	5¼
Value of Imports at a Medium yearly, for said seven Years,	864453	11	3
Ballance yearly in favour of *Ireland*, for said seven Years, —	180089	18	3¼

In the Year	Value of the Exports from *Ireland* to *Great-Britain*.			Value of the Imports from *Great-Britain* to *Ireland*.		
	l.	*s.*	*d.*	*l.*	*s.*	*d.*
1721	452203	12	9	438756	17	6
1722	558400	10	5	535206	5	2
1723	578009	7	1	552859	7	5
1724	497882	15	1	472802	1	8
1725	477972	14	11	540587	6	7
1726	504881	15	4	588024	3	6
1727	462097	14	0	443460	19	6
	3531448	09	7	3571697	01	4

	l.	*s.*	*d.*
Value of Imports at a Medium yearly for said seven Years,	510242	8	9
Value of Exports at a Medium yearly, for said seven Years,	504492	12	9
Ballance yearly, in favour of *Great Britain*,	5749	16	0

In the Year	Value of Exports from *Ireland* to *France*.			Value of Imports from *France* to *Ireland*.			
	l.	*s.*	*d*	*l.*	*s.*	*d.*	
1721	121237	10	9	132908	2	3	
1722	122426	10	5	117881	13	3	
1723	176777	8	2	150563	18	3	
1724	214422	17	6	141650	9	5	
1725	205317	7	7	159055	5	2	
1726	137702	10	7	193954	12	6	
1727	179568	12	10	177705	10	9	
	1157452	17	10	1073719	11	7	

	l.	*s.*	*d.*
Value exported at a Medium yearly, for ſaid ſeven Years,	165350	8	5
Value imported at a Medium yearly, for ſaid ſeven Yeats,	153388	10	1
Ballance yearly in favour of *Ireland*,	11961	18	4

In

In the Year	Value of Exports to *Denmark, Norway, Hamburg*, and *Baltick*.			Value of Imports from thence.		
	l.	*s.*	*d.*	*l.*	*s.*	*d.*
1721	80700	1	4	49742	7	8
1722	46531	4	8	54292	0	11
1723	44951	1	9	67000	9	9
1724	42049	10	3	74300	8	11
1725	39574	17	5	59400	3	11
1726	53211	9	9	67193	7	6
1727	55189	10	4	75526	1	4
	362207	15	6	447455	0	0

	l.	*s.*	*d.*
Value of Imports at a Medium yearly, for said seven Years, —	63922	2	10
Value of Exports at a Medium yearly, for said seven Years, —	51743	19	4
Ballance yearly againſt *Ireland*, —	12178	3	6

In the Year	Value of Exports to *Holland* and *Flanders*.			Imports from thence.		
	l.	*s.*	*d.*	*l.*	*s.*	*d.*
1721	87032	19	11	51187	3	4
1722	89327	4	1	55624	16	9
1723	60866	7	7	82224	17	2
1724	52618	1	1	70048	14	3
1725	63922	15	3	69206	2	2
1726	93713	15	6	84048	6	2
1727	100865	10	4	70031	0	5
	548346	13	9	492371	0	3

	l.	*s.*	*d.*
Value exported at a Medium yearly, for said seven Years, ——	78335	4	10
Value imported at a Medium yearly,	70338	14	4
Ballance yearly in favour of *Ireland*, —	7996	10	6

In

In the Year.	Value of Exports to *Spain*, *Portugal*, and the *Mediterranean*.			Imported from thence.			Difference.
	l.	*s.*	*d.*	*l.*	*s.*	*d.*	
1721	176768	6	1	57963	19	11	
1722	183239	13	0	56363	1	0	
1723	147265	1	11	68153	18	9	
1724	149984	1	0	60959	16	11	
1725	135751	8	8	61584	0	6	
1726	118049	4	5	96839	6	6	
1727	146353	12	11	64067	19	6	
	1057411	8	0	465932	3	1	

	l.	*s.*	*d.*
Value Exported at a Medium, yearly,	151058	15	5
Value Imported at a Medium, yearly,	66561	14	7
Ballance yearly in Favour of *Ireland*,	84497	00	10

In

In the Year.	Exported from *Ireland* to the *Plantations*. Value.		
	l.	*s.*	*d.*
1721	68404	3	2
1722	74344	9	6
1723	82806	6	9
1724	96825	8	10
1725	103998	2	4
1726	110313	19	7
1727	118244	10	1
	654937	0	3

Value Exported, at a Medium, yearly, *l.* 93562 *s.* 0 *d.* 9

A TABLE of the Value of the Exports and Imports of *Ireland*, at a Medium, yearly, for Seven Years, ending the 24th of *March* 1727.

The Nations to and from which the Exports and Imports are made.	Exports in Value.			Imports in Value.			Ballance.			
	l.	*s.*	*d.*	*l.*	*s.*	*d.*	*l.*	*s.*	*d.*	
Great-Britain	504492	12	9	510242	8	9	5749	16	0	against us
France,	165350	8	3	153388	10	1	11961	18	2	for us.
Denmark, *Norway*, *Hamburgh* and the *Baltick*,	51743	19	4	63922	2	10	12178	3	6	against us
Holland & *Flanders*,	78335	4	10	70338	14	4	7996	10	6	for us.
Spain, *Portugal*, and the *Mediterranean*,	151058	15	5	66561	14	7	84497	0	10	for us.
Plantations,	93562	9	0				93562	9	0	for us.
Total	1044543	9	7	864453	10	7				

Net Ballance in favour of *Ireland*, at a Medium, yearly, for said seven Years, 180089 19 0

N. B. All Fractions, less than a Penny, are omitted, which amount to Nine-pence in the whole.

The

	l.	s.	d.
The Value of Imports from all Countries into *Ireland*, at a Medium, yearly, for the laſt ſeven Years, is,	864453	11	
The Value of Imports from *Great-Britain*, at a Medium, yearly,	510252	8	
So that the Imports from *Great-Britain* only, are in Value near 5 Parts in 8, of our whole Importations.			
The Value of our Exports to all Countries, at a Medium, yearly, for ſaid ſeven Years,	1044543	9	
The Value of Exports to *Great-Britain*, yearly, at a Medium,	504492	12	
Therefore our Exports to *Great-Britain* only, are, in Value, near half of our whole Exportations.			
The general Ballance in Favour of *Ireland*, at a Medium, yearly, for ſeven Years, ending the 24th of *March* 1720, was,	279254	14	
The general Ballance for *Ireland*, at a Medium, yearly, for laſt ſeven Years, was,	180089	18	
The yearly Decreaſe of the Ballance of Trade for laſt ſeven Years,	99164	16	0

Value of Imports in 1726, —	1030059	16	4
Value of Exports in 1726, —	1017872	15	4
Ballance againſt *Ireland* in 1726,	12187	1	0

The

Thus far we are instructed by the *Custom-house* oks, concerning the Value of our Commodities Im-orted and Exported, and the respective Ballances pending thereon, and find that the Ballance in our vour of all our Trade in general, taken at a Me-um yearly, for the last seven Years ending the 24th *March* 1727, amounts to 1800891. 18 s. 3 d.

It is proper to take Notice of the Manner of aluation practis'd by the proper Officers who (as am well inform'd) value all our Exports at a Me-um of the Price Current in our Markets at home; nd all the Imports, at the mean Rate we are sup-os'd to pay for them to other Countries; and to o Justice to the Care and Skill of the Officers, we ust observe, that of late Years, they are, for the ost Part, pretty exact, and right in their Valua-ons; their Books shew that they have made it their usiness to be well inform'd by Merchants, and ther Dealers, of the current Rates of Commodi-es both at Home and Abroad.

It must be own'd, that this Manner of Valua-on, will not give us the true Ballances of our Trade ith other Countries; for tho' in respect to the mports, no Alteration is to be made in the Va-ue of them, on the Supposition that we rate them o higher, than the prime Cost we pay for them o other Countries, yet we must add to the Value f our Exports, whatever we sell them for Abroad, nore than they are rated for at Home; this Addi-ional Value arises from the Duty and Charges of Exportation, the Freight, Expence and Profit of Merchants, which in long Voyages are very consi-erable, and enhance the Price of Commodities to he Gain of that Nation, in whose Ships, and on whose Account these Goods are exported.

To adjuſt theſe Articles, that are either to be added to, or ſubſtracted from the reſpective Balances, as they are ſettled by our *Cuſtom-Houſe Officers*, is very difficult, and requires the Knowledge of many Particulars, not eaſily to be come at; however, I ſhall endeavour to give all the Satisfaction, I am able, from ſuch Lights, and Information, as I have had in this Affair, and in the firſt Place I ſhall lay down an Eſtimate of the Tunnage of Shipping, employ'd in the Trade of *Ireland* for ſeveral Years.

AN

An ESTIMATE of the Tunnage of Ship-

In the Year	Number of Ships.	*Iriſh* Tuns.	*Engliſh* Tuns.	*Scotch* Tuns.
1721	3499	35006	94177	15739
1722	3657	33212	218299	18355
1723	4012	42136	96440	19247
1724	3833	39085	95980	19095
1725	3461	36795	92321	18098
1726	3703	43089	103961	19882
1727	3494	40469	99394	15648
Totals.—	25659	269792	800572	126064
At a Medium yearly.	366-$\frac{4}{7}$	38541$\frac{5}{7}$	114367$\frac{3}{7}$	18009$\frac{1}{7}$

ping employed in the Trade of *IRELAND.*

Dutch Tuns.	*East Country* Tuns.	*French* Tuns.	*Spaniſh* Tuns.	Totals.
8641	3244	1384	231	158422
11201	2444	2868	115	286494
9292	3915	2751	205	173986
967	12318	1989	511	169925
11870	2179½	775½	365	162404
12266	1910	2400	432	183940
12086	2543	2652	401	173193
66323	28553½	14819½	2260	1308364
9474⅙	4079 1¼	2117¾¼	322⅚	186909⅐

THIS Eſtimate ſhews us, what Share we ourſelves, as well as other Countries, have in the Shipping employ'd in the Exportation and Importation of our Commodities; but what Proportion of thoſe Commodities are exported or imported on the Account of our own Merchants, is not ſo eaſy to aſcertain; but upon the beſt Enquiry I have been able to make, I judge, that at a Medium the third Part of the Value of our whole Exports may be the Proportion that our Merchants export on their own Accounts, and that a Profit of 12 *l. per Cent.* at a Medium, may be allowed to ariſe from this Part of our Exportation, including the Freight of our own Shipping. Upon this Suppoſition, the Gain accruing to the Kingdom thereby, will, by an Allowance of 12 *l. per Cent.* for the Sum of 348500 *l.* (which is the third Part of our whole Exportation) amount to 41800 *l. per Ann.* and if we ſhould be concerned in half the Value of our Exports, or that the Gain ariſing from thence ſhould be 18 *per Cent. as ſome imagine, then a Profit of* 93960 *l.* muſt be brought into the Account.

THIS ſurplus Profit ariſes from that Part of our Exports, which we ſend Abroad on our own Accounts, and ſell for ſo much more Abroad, than they are rated at Home; and muſt be added in our Favour to the yearly Ballance of 180089 *l.* 19 *s.* ſtated by the Cuſtom-Houſe Officers; and in caſe thoſe Officers ſhould have rated our Imports higher than we paid for them to Foreigners, the Overplus ought to be deducted from the Value of the Imports ſet down by them, which will increaſe the Ballance in our Favour; and, on the contrary, the Overplus ought to be added to the Value of our Imports, if they have under-rated them, which will leſſen the Ballance: But tho' it would be agreeable to find the Ballance of Trade enlarge in our Favour, from ſo conſiderable an Addition to it, ariſing from ſome

Articles,

Articles, which could not come within the Province of the Cuſtom-Houſe Officers; yet, upon Examination, I am afraid we ſhall find a great Drawback upon us, and be obliged to abate a great deal of that ſuppos'd Ballance, and perhaps reduce it lower than the Ballance ſtated by the Cuſtom-Houſe, when we conſider the great Quantity of Goods, which are yearly run into the Kingdom, without any Entry in the Cuſtom-Houſe Books or Duty paid for the ſame, for which we paid Value abroad.

'Tis impoſſible to aſcertain the Value of this clandeſtine Importation, but the fair Trader complains of great Quantities of all Sorts of *Eaſt-India* Commodities, Silks, Tobacco, Wine, *&c.* imported by Stealth; and of late we have diſcovered a long Scene of Running of Brandy, even in our *Metropolis*, where Officers abound, and are under the immediate Eye of the Commiſſioners; and yet neither the Truſts, nor Oaths, Penalties, or Number of Officers were ſufficient Checks to prevent their being brib'd by the Runners: if it's ſo difficult to prevent this Sort of Traffick in *Dublin*, what Quantities muſt we ſuppoſe to be privately imported in the other Parts of the Kingdom, in a Compaſs of near 800 Miles in Circuit, abounding in Harbours and Creeks, where neither the Number or Care of Officers can be ſufficient to prevent theſe clandeſtine Conveyances; and tho' ſuch Sort of People, are by a late Act of Parliament deprived of the Uſe of the *Iſle of Man*, for carrying on this Traffick, yet how eaſy is it to ſhift the Scene of this pernicious Dealing, when the Profit ſhall countervail all Hazards, as it always does, where the Duties are high? But whatever is the yearly Ballance on our Side by Trade, whether 180000 *l.* or 280000 *l.* or more, yet all this falls very much ſhort of anſwering that immoderate and unprofitable Drain of Money, we labour under, to ſupport our Gentry abroad; whatever

ever Gain we make in any Part of the World, is immediately carry'd off by this Flux, which has already consum'd the greateſt Part of our Capital Stock, as appears by that univerſal Face of Poverty, which is ſpread over the Nation.

I ſhall cloſe this Head, with an Obſervation, which may paſs for a political Axiom, *That one of the greateſt Evils, which can befal any Country, is to have the Gentlemen of Eſtate and Employment deſert it, and ſpend the Profits thereof abroad.*

UNDER the ſecond Head I ſhall take Notice of the Countries we trade with, to moſt Advantage or Diſadvantage.

AND I ſhall lay down the following *Rules*, as a Foundation, to judge by.

I. THAT is the moſt advantageous Trade which takes off the greateſt Quantity of the Produce of a Country, and eſpecially of its Manufactures, and which imports feweſt Commodities, and thoſe capable of farther Improvement; in which Caſe there will be the greateſt Return in Specie to make up the Ballance.

II. ON the contrary, that is the moſt diſadvantageous Trade, which takes off the ſmalleſt Quantity of the Produce of a Country, and that unmanufactured; and in Return imports the greateſt Quantity of Commodities for Luxury, and fully wrought up, in which Caſe the Imports will moſt exceed the Exports in Value.

ACCORDING to this Rule, we ſhall find the Trade of *England* of great Importance to us, ſince it takes off above the Value of 500000 *l.* yearly, which is near the Half of all our Exports, and among the reſt, the greateſt Part of our Linen Manufactures.

'Tis true, the *Engliſh* take from us all our Wooll, Worſted, Woollen and Linen-Yarn, which they work up to their great Advantage, and Import to us in Manufactures fully wrought up, near the full Value of all we Export to them.

Our Trade to *Spain*, *Portugal*, and the *Mediterranean* is very beneficial to us, ſince it carries off yearly to the Value of 151,000 *l.* in our Commodities, and in return, we have from thence near three parts in five of the Value return'd in Specie.

HOLLAND and *Flanders* take from us to the Value of 78,000 *l.* yearly, in the ſimple Produce of the Country, principally in Raw Hides, which they tann, and in great Quantities of Butter; and in Return, they ſend us the Value of 70,000 *l.* in *Hollands*, *Cambricks*, *Madder*, and other Commodities, moſt of which we could furniſh ourſelves with from our own Induſtry, if proper Meaſures were taken.

We ſend to *Hamburg*, *Norway*, and the *Baltick*, yearly, to the Value of 52,000 *l.* and import from thence to the Value of 64,000 *l.* ſo that there lies a Ballance of 12,000 *l.* yearly againſt us; but conſidering that our Imports from thence conſiſt principally of Deal-Boards, Timber of all Sorts, Iron, Hemp, and Naval-Stores, which we cannot be without, or ſupply ourſelves with cheaper elſewhere, we muſt be content with that Trade on the Foot it ſtands.

As to the Trade of *France*, by the Cuſtom-Houſe Books, (from which I always take ſuch Eſtimates and Valuations as are herein mention'd) the Value of our Exports thither yearly at a Medium of the laſt ſeven Years, amounts unto 165,000 *l.* and our Imports from thence to 153,000 *l. per Ann.* by which we ſeem to have a Ballance on our Side yearly of 12,000 *l.* but if we make Allowances for great Quantities of Silken Manufacture, Brandy, and many other expenſive Articles, clandeſtinely imported from thence, from time to time, we ſhall find, I am afraid, a con-

ſiderable Ballance lie againſt us, as appears plainly from a conſtant Courſe of Exchange in favour of *France*.

We find by the Cuſtom-Houſe Books, that the Importation of *French* Wines has increaſed ſo much of late Years, that there is a third part more now imported than uſed to be twelve Years ago, notwithſtanding the prime Coſt thereof has been conſiderably raiſed upon our Merchants in *France*, and the Price thereof increaſed much more on our Conſumers at home.

It may be therefore adviſeable to put a Stop to this immoderate Conſumption of *French* Wine, by laying an additional Duty thereon; which will have this good Effect that we ſhall thereby ſave a great deal of Money to the Kingdom yearly, and at the ſame time increaſe the Conſumption of the Produce of the Country, and conſequently our home Exciſe.

Many are of Opinion, that the *French* Trade is very detrimental to this Country: 1*ſt*, Becauſe our Importations from thence conſiſt principally of Wine and Brandy, which are Materials for Luxury, and not for Uſe. 2*dly*, Becauſe the *French* will take no Manufactures from us, not even a tann'd Hide, nor any other Produce of our Country, but what is uſeful either for their Manufactures at home, or neceſſary for the Support of their *American* Plantations abroad.

But then we ought to conſider, that it appears from the Quantity of our Commodities exported to *France*, at a Medium yearly for ſeven Years, ending 1726, taken from the Cuſtom-Houſe Books, that the *French* take from us, one Year with another, two Parts in five of all our Tallow, above one third of all our Butter, a fourth Part of our raw Hides, and above one third part of all our Beef; which laſt Commodity may otherwiſe lie a Drug upon our Hands, ſince no other Foreign Nation has Occaſion for the

ſame, either for their own Conſumption, or for the Uſe of their Colonies; we ſhould alſo conſider that we have been long uſed to the Drinking of Wine, and in all Likelihood will not fail to continue the Uſe of it, and that we can't have Wines ſo cheap from other Countries, and that the Duty laid thereon is a great Support to our Eſtabliſhment; for theſe Reaſons we can't think this Trade ſo very detrimental as ſome would make it: It could be wiſh'd indeed, that proper Repreſentations were made to the *French*, to make them ſenſible that we ſhew more Favour to them in the Duties on Wine, than to any other Nation; and that, in return, we might reaſonably expect ſome Favour in our Trade with them, with reſpect to the Duties on our Commodities, and not to be treated, as we are at preſent, with as great Severity as thoſe Nations are, who lay very high Duties, and even Prohibitions on their Commodities.

3*dly*, I SHALL now conſider the great Benefits which accrue to *England* by the Trade of *Ireland*, and how much it is its Intereſt to encourage it, which I ſhall endeavour to make appear in the following Particulars.

1*ſt*, It appears from the Cuſtom-Houſe Books, that the Value of our Importations from all Countries at a Medium yearly for the laſt ſeven Years, amounts to 864,453 *l.* 10 *s.* 7 *d.* and that the Imports from *Great-Britain* alone amount to 510,242 *l.* 8 *s.* 9 *d.* which is near five parts in eight of our whole Importations, and they conſiſt chiefly of Woollen and Silken Manufactures, Coffee, Tea, Callicoes, Muſlins, Tobacco, Sugar, Coals, Hops, Bark, Iron-Ware, and Glaſs-Ware, *&c.* all which are Commodities work'd up to the height; and I believe that upon Examination, it will be found, that we take off a much

much greater Quantity of the ſeveral Manufactures of *England*, except their Woollen, than any other Country in *Europe*.

2*dly*, Whereas 'tis commonly judg'd, that the Importation of Foreign Goods is a Loſs to the Nation that receives them; ſince otherwiſe Bullion would be return'd in Lieu thereof: We ſhall find on the contrary, that *England* receives a vaſt Benefit by all the Goods we ſend them; for the Wooll, Woollen-Yarn, and Worſted, which they have from us yearly, to the Quantity of between 2 and 300,000 Stones, at 18 Pound weight the Stone, and for which they pay us about 130,000 *l.* when fully manufactur'd by the People of *England*, will ſell for 500,000 *l.* at leaſt, in Foreign Markets, which is a Benefit that would otherwiſe accrue to the People of *Ireland*, had not *England* reſerv'd the Manufacture and Profit thereof to themſelves.

In like manner they receive from us yearly, as appears from the Entries in our Cuſtom-Houſe Books, taken at a Medium yearly for ſeven Years, ending the 24*th* of *March* 1726, to the Value of 92,752 *l.* in Linen-Yarn, which when work'd up into Tickings, Tapes, Girths, and many other Sorts of Manufactures in *England*, become thereby worth 100,000 *l.* more than their firſt Coſt.

They alſo take from us great Quantities of raw Hides, Tallow, and Linen, which they export to Foreign Countries, and their Plantations, to great Advantage.

3*dly*, It appears from the Eſtimate of the Tunnage of Shipping employ'd yearly in the Trade of *Ireland*, before ſet forth, that whereas the whole Tunnage amounts at a Medium yearly, to 186,909 Tuns, the *Engliſh* and *Scots* Tunnage ſo employ'd comes to 132,376 Tuns, which is more than two thirds of the whole; and allowing but nine Shillings Gain on each Tun at a Medium, which is very mo-

moderate, there ariſes a yearly Profit of 59,562 *l.* 4 *s.* to the *Engliſh* and *Scotch*, on this Article of Freight only in the *Iriſh* Trade.

4*thly*, Our Exportations, as well as our Freight being principally carry'd on the account of *Engliſh* Merchants, there ariſes a very conſiderable Profit to them on this Article, which is commonly eſtimated to be double the Freight, to make good Expences, Enſurance, and Merchants Profits; but being willing to be under the real Value in theſe Computations, it may be reaſonably allow'd that a Profit of 80,000 *l.* accrues to *England* yearly on this Article of the *Iriſh* Trade.

5*thly*, To all theſe Advantages, we are to add the greateſt of all, which ariſes from our Lords and Gentlemen of Eſtate and Employment living and ſpending all their Incomes abroad, to the value of 5 or 600,000 *l.* yearly, whereof the greateſt part is conſum'd in *England*, and may be reckon'd as ſo much clear Gain to it, without the leaſt Value return'd for the ſame.

This plainly appears from the Liſt of *Abſentees*, hereunto prefix'd, wherein the Names of the Perſons, and the yearly Value of their Eſtates, Employments, and Penſions ſpent abroad, are particularly mention'd; and for this Reaſon, becauſe it would be impoſſible to convince the World, that ſo much of our Subſtance is carry'd off by this Channel, by any other Method, than by pointing out the Perſons to whom, and the Eſtates from whence thoſe Drains are made; but now every one, on examining the Particulars contain'd in the ſaid Liſt, which have been collected with great Pains into one View, may ſatisfy himſelf, whether they are truly ſet forth or not; 'tis but enquiring whether ſuch and ſuch Perſons, do not generally live abroad, or were out of the Kingdom, at the time mention'd; and whether they

they have not Eſtates or Employments to the Value ſet forth, and ſpend the ſame abroad: And I am confident, that tho' in ſome few Particulars, I might be miſinform'd and over-rate ſome Articles, yet it will be found that I have under-rated others much more, having it always in my Intention to be rather under, than over; and that I have omitted ſeveral, which will occur upon reading, to every one's Obſervation; and that upon the whole, thoſe Drains we labour under, are much more than I have eſtimated them.

Mr. *Davenant*, in his Diſcourſes on the *Plantation* Trade, *p.* 221. aſſerts, that the Trade of *England* arriv'd at its greateſt Height in 1688, at which time he computes the national Profit ariſing from foreign Trade, and home Manufactures to have been two Millions yearly; the Particulars whereof are as follows.

	l.	*s.*	*d.*
Gain'd by the *Plantation* Trade,	600000		
By the *Eaſt-India* Trade,	500000		
By the *Europæan*, *African*, and *Levant* Trade on the home Product,	600000		
By Re-exports of *Plantation* Goods,	120000		
By Re-exports of *India* Goods,	180000		
In all	2000000		

Mr. *Davenant* was ſuſpected to be too partial to the *Eaſt-India* Trade; for which Reaſon many oppos'd him, and would not allow that *England* gain'd one Million yearly at that time, and ſome inſiſted that *England* was then a great Loſer, by a large Ballance on the ſide of the *French* Trade; and indeed if the Trade of *England* had been in ſuch a flouriſhing Condition, as to have gain'd at laſt two Millions yearly, that muſt have appear'd in a proportionable

portionable Increaſe of the current Specie, and ſwell'd it up at the Revolution to 30 or 40 Millions; but upon the Recoinage of their Money, it was computed by Mr. *Davenant* and others, that the current Specie did not exceed 18 Millions. But whatever Gain the Nation had formerly, I am afraid it has much leſs now; for conſidering the great Loſs of Treaſure ſent abroad, to ſupport the Wars, in the Reigns of King *William* and Queen *Anne*, the Interruptions and Loſſes by Trade, in that Time, and conſidering the great Load of high Duties, Taxes and Prohibitions, that lie very heavy on all its foreign and domeſtick Commerce; I believe, that the moſt ſanguine will not pretend that *England* gains at preſent a Million by all its Traffick; and even half of that Sum is ſent off yearly to pay Foreigners the Intereſt of the Money they have in the publick Funds, which is reaſonably judg'd to be no leſs than ten Millions.

If this be the Caſe of *England*, as I am afraid it is, then it clearly follows, that *England* gains by *Ireland* alone, half as much yearly as it does by all the World beſides; this Channel of Wealth has enabled *England* all along to ſupport two moſt expenſive Wars abroad, and to lay up Treaſure at home in Time of Peace. Whatever the People of *Ireland* get by hard Labour, and poor Living at home, or by their Induſtry and Hazards abroad; all is immediately conveyed to *England* to maintain our Gentlemen there.

And notwithſtanding *Ireland* has parted with all its Subſtance, and reduc'd it ſelf to the greateſt Poverty, to enrich *England*, yet there are ſome *Engliſhmen*, who being ignorant of the Caſe of *Ireland*, and of the Advantages it brings to them, upon all Occaſions repreſent us, as having Intereſts incompatible with theirs, and carrying on Trades deſtructive of the *Engliſh* Commerce; whereas 'tis evi-

dent

dent to all considering impartial Persons, that there is no Country in *Europe*, that brings so much Profit to another as *Ireland* does to *England*, and therefore 'tis the real Interest and Policy of *England* to cherish, and encourage this her younger Sister, all whose Acquisitions are sure to flow into her Bosom; for tho' our People were more fully employ'd, and our Exports enlarg'd, tho' our Gains from other Nations by a greater Liberty of Trade should be much more considerable than they are, yet we should not thereby be one Jot the richer, since no Part of this Wealth would stay with us, but would run off in the great *Drain* of Remittances to our *Absenters* to enrich *England*.

The necessary and luxurious Importations of *England* are excessive, and fall very little short of its Exports in Value, each of them being computed at between 5 and 6 Millions yearly.

If most Part of the *Bullion*, which *England* gains from *Spain* and *Portugal*, is sent away to the *East-Indies*, and to answer the Ballances that lie against it in the *Northern* Trades, and the Demands also of Foreigners, who have great Shares in the Publick Funds, as many imagine to be the Case; it will need other Resources and Means to encrease its Wealth. These are furnished to it from those Countries, which depend upon it, namely the *Plantations* and *Ireland*: the *Plantations* enrich it by their Commodities, which are re-exported to other Countries; and *Ireland*, by its continual Remittances in Money.

'Tis certain that the *Plantations* are a great Addition of Wealth to *England*; the Labour of the *Negroes*, about 200000 in Number, costs little, and the Profit thereof is great, and centers at last in *England*: No Part of the Money which the *Planters* get from the *Spaniards*, stays with them, but flows to *England*, as fast as it enters in; and whenever a *Planter* has made his Fortune, he seldom fails to transport

transport all his Effects and Family to *England*, which he reckons his Home; 'tis therefore the Intereſt of *England*, to promote and encourage the Trade of their Plantations, and not ſuffer any Obſtruction or Difficulty to be thrown upon it, (at the Inſtance of private Traders and Manufacturers, who may find their own Account in it,) to the Prejudice of the Nation, which will always be enrich'd by the Plantations, in proportion as they grow in Wealth, and loſe as they grow poor.

Our Caſe is much the ſame with the Plantations, the Produce and Profit of all our Labour iſſues conſtantly to the People of *England*; and therefore 'tis its Intereſt to give the People of *Ireland* full Employment, to encourage their Induſtry in every Branch of Trade, and not to ſtop any Inlet through which Treaſure may come into it, ſince every Acquiſition and Profit that we can make, will, at laſt, center among them. If they would look upon us with the ſame Favour, and in the ſame Light, as they ought to do their Plantations, they would juſtly reckon us a main Foundation of their Wealth, and think it not conſiſtent with their Intereſt, to cramp our Induſtry, or render our Labour trifling and inſignificant.

Upon a candid and fair Enquiry and Reaſoning, it will be found, that there is no Trade or Manufacture that *England* is poſſeſſed of, but it is for its Advantage, to let the People of *Ireland* into the full Enjoyment of it; not excepting the Woollen Manufacture, the principal Foundation of all their Trade, and which they are ſo jealous of, and value at ſo high a Rate.

This Aſſertion may ſeem a ſtrange Paradox to ſeveral Perſons, but I think, may be ſupported with many good Reaſons; but I ſhall firſt take notice of, and examine the Grounds of thoſe Complaints, which are frequently raiſed by ſome in *England*, of

the Transportation of great Quantities of Wooll, and Woollen Manufacture, from *Ireland* to *France*, *Spain* and *Portugal*, to the great Prejudice of their Woollen Trade, by the Sale of *Iriſh* Stuffs, or *French* Manufacture made of *Iriſh* Wooll; And, as a Proof of this, it is urg'd, that the Quantity of Wooll transported from hence to *England*, is much diminiſhed of late Years, and therefore they conclude, that all the Wooll that is wanting to make up the former Quantities, is run to *France*.

They ſay further, that they have diſcovered a Clandeſtine Trade, in carrying great Quantities of Serges and Woollen Goods to *Lisbon* and other Places, of which they have given us invidious Accounts in the publick Prints.

In anſwer to this, it muſt be own'd, that there is not ſo great a Quantity of Wooll exported to *England*, of late Years, as uſed to be: but this Diminution is eaſily accounted for, and it is not owing to the running of Wooll, but ariſes principally from the following Cauſes.

1*ſt*, That, in the North of *Ireland*, there are hardly any Sheep now to be found, ſince the Inhabitants are grown very numerous, and have apply'd themſelves principally to the Linen Manufactures, and ſowing of Corn for their Subſiſtence: ſo that they are forc'd to ſupply themſelves with Wooll and Mutton from other Provinces.

2*dly*, In other Parts of the Kingdom, the Farmers, finding that Wooll lay under a great Diſcouragement, and could not afford a Profit anſwerable to the high Price of Lands, have generally leſſened their Flocks of Sheep, and employed their Lands to other Uſes, which turn to a better Account, ſuch as feeding Black-Cattle, keeping Dairies, plowing for Corn, Rape, Hemp and Flax, *&c.* for which they find a ready Market abroad; whereas they are not allowed

at

at all to export their Wooll manufactured; nor even unmanufactured, but to a few Ports in *England*.

3*dly*, We are farther to conſider, that the People of *Ireland* are much encreas'd in Numbers, and are fallen into a greater Wear and Uſe of their own Manufactures, and conſequently muſt conſume a greater Quantity of their Wooll.

4*thly*, The Sheep of *Ireland* are ſubject to the Rot, from the Wetneſs of the Seaſons, and Moiſture of the Climate; and, as ſuch Seaſons are frequent, and the Deſtruction of Sheep thereby very great, whenever this happens, it requires a good many Years to repair the Loſs.

We ſee this Diminution might have happen'd, tho' we ſhould not have run one Stone of Wooll; and it is likely this Diminution will ſtill encreaſe; for, what Motive can we have, to deal in a Commodity which we are not allowed to export or manufacture to Advantage, and only to make our ſelves Shepherds for *England*? This Cauſe of Complaint is like to fall ſoon to the ground, ſince we find it our Intereſt to leſſen our Number of Sheep, and to keep no more of them than are neceſſary for our own Conſumption; and then probably we ſhall be courted to return to our Flocks again.

It can't be deny'd, that ſome Wooll and Stuffs are run out of the Kingdom; and 'tis impoſſible altogether to prevent it in ſuch a wide-extended Coaſt, full of Creeks, notwithſtanding the Vigilance and Care of the Officers, who are, perhaps, the ſtricteſt in the Execution of this Part of their Office, of any in *Europe*; and we ſee, that in *England*, all their Laws and Endeavours can't prevent this miſchievous Traffick. 'Tis remarkable, that one of our Merchants having obſerved many Packs of Wooll landed in the Weſt of *England* from *Ireland*, ſoon after ſaw the ſame Packs landed in one of the Ports of *France*, where he happen'd to come, and knew them

by their Marks; and, upon Enquiry made in the Ports of *France*, it was found, that a greater Quantity of Wooll was imported thither from *England* than from *Ireland*.

If any Woollen Manufacture is clandeſtinely carried from hence to *Portugal* or *Spain*, (for *France* will take nothing but Wooll) the Quantity can't be great; the Hazards on Exportation are ſo many, and Forfeitures ſo great, that it is hardly worth any one's while to venture: and, as ſuch Exporters are generally poor, they muſt ſell for what they can get, and perhaps their ſelling their Goods at a low Rate, tho' in a ſmall Quantity, has given the greateſt Offence; and, for that Reaſon, the *French* and *Dutch* will be as ready to join in the Out-cry, as the *Engliſh*.

We ought to conſider, that Trade has been at a Stand, and that there has been little Vent for Woollen Manufactures theſe two Years paſt, which has been occaſion'd principally by our Difference with *Spain*. In ſuch a Criſis, the *Engliſh* Merchants are apt to aſſign many wrong Cauſes, beſides the true ones, for the Decay of their Trade; and, among others, are ready to bring in the People of *Ireland* for their Share in it: but, we are very ſenſible at home, that our Weavers are ſtarving for want of Employment, and, at the ſame time, import a great deal of Woollen Manufacture from *England*, which is no Sign that we export great Quantities thereof abroad: but, whatever *Iriſh* Woollen Manufacture is ſold abroad, all the Money got thereby, is ſoon remitted to the People of *England*, who are ſo far from being Loſers, that they are great Gainers by this Traffick, which ſome reckon ſo pernicious.

If the *French*, or any other Foreigners, ſhould ſell all their Goods at the ſame Market, abroad, that *England* does, and remit all the Money ariſing from thence to *England*, to be ſpent there, will any body ſay, that ſo much is not clear Gain to *England*, tho'

ſome

ſome of its Merchants may poſſibly ſuffer a little thereby, in the Sale of their Goods?

This is the very Caſe of *Ireland*, ſo much complain'd of, which leads me to make good my Aſſertion, that it is the Intereſt of *England* to leave the Woollen Trade free and open to the People of *Ireland*.

If *Ireland* was the only Country, beſides *England*, which produc'd Wooll, it would then be in the Power of *England*, and its Intereſt by Reſtrictions laid upon us, to reſerve the whole Trade to themſelves; and we ſhould readily acquieſce and ſubmit to thoſe Laws, however ſevere they may otherwiſe be thought; but the Caſe is much otherwiſe; *Spain* produces great Quantities of fine Wooll, and all the other Parts of *Europe* raiſe a great deal of the coarſe, and a conſiderable Parcel of the fine Sort; ſo that they don't want Materials for Woollen Manufacture: ſtopping the Door upon *Ireland* is only hedging in the Cuckow, and has only ſerv'd to open and enlarge that Trade in foreign Countries, by driving great Numbers of our Weavers to *France*, and other Places, where they have ſet up the ſame Trade, and thereby have done *England* much more Prejudice, than if they had ſtaid at home, and were allow'd to export their Woollen Manufactures.

We find by *ſad* Experience, that ſince the Revolution, the *French*, *Dutch*, and *Germans* have encouraged and cultivated their Woollen Manufactures to a great Height, and ſtill go on in improving the ſame; and by the Cheapneſs of Labour and Proviſions are able to underſell the *Engliſh* already in their own and foreign Markets: The *French* have thereby in a great meaſure ingroſſed the Woollen Trade in *Turkey* and the *Mediterranean*, which was formerly carry'd on by the *Engliſh*; and many Provinces in *Germany* now ſupply themſelves with their own Manufactures, which they likewiſe had formerly from *England*:

land: We find alſo, that ſince the Miniſtries of *Alberoni* and *Ripperda*, the *Spaniards* have either out of Revenge or Policy proſecuted the Woollen Trade with ſuch Vigour, that they now clothe their Armies with their own Manufactures, and in Imitation of the Court, the Nobility and better Sort, are cloth'd the ſame Way; and that *Engliſh* Bays, which us'd to be the common Wear of the Country, is not now made Uſe of there: if this Humour goes on, the *Spaniards* may in Time prohibit the Exportation of their Wooll, the principal Ingredient of the fine Drapery of *England*.

THIS is a very diſagreeable Scene of Affairs, which ſhould inſpire the *Engliſh* with Reſolutions of taking other Meaſures to mend their Condition; they ſee the *French*, *Dutch*, and others have rival'd and even worm'd them out of a great Part of their Woollen Trade, and they are in Danger of being driven out of the beſt Part of what remains, unleſs ſome new Courſe be taken to retrieve their Woollen Trade; which can be done no other Way than by being able to underſell the *French* and *Dutch* in foreign Markets; for it is a Maxim, which always holds good, that he commands the Market, who ſells beſt and cheapeſt; this is what the *Engliſh* cannot do of themſelves, conſidering the high Price of Labour, Taxes, and Manner of Living in *England*, which lie heavy on their Manufactures, and make them come dearer to any foreign Market than thoſe of other Countries, which rival them. But if they ſhould think proper to employ the People of *Ireland*, in making any Part of their Woollen Manufactures, and eſpecially ſuch Sorts of them, as they are rival'd in by others, they would ſoon be able to drive the *French* and *Dutch* out of any Branch of foreign Trade, by ſelling cheaper, and better Commodities, than they.

AND this we have Reaſon to believe would be the

the Caſe, conſidering that the Price of Labour and Proviſions in *Ireland* is very low, and that the People are induſtrious, and live poor and cheap, and have no Taxes on their Conſumptions. There is no Way left for the People of *England* to recover any loſt Trade, but by the ſame Ways and Means whereby others got it from them, which is by ſelling cheaper than their Neighbours; nor is there any Courſe left to bring that about, but by taking in the Aſſiſtance of the People of *Ireland*, and employing their Hands in ſuch Manner, and ſuch Work, as they ſhall find moſt convenient.

If for Inſtance, the *Turkey* Merchants were allow'd to work up in *Ireland*, ſuch Sort of Goods, as the *French* ſell in *Turkey*, and to export them directly thither; and could by underſelling the *French*, diſpoſe of a much greater Quantity of ſuch Goods, than they do at preſent, would not this be apparently for the Benefit of *England?* the greateſt Part of the Profit would redound to the *Engliſh* Merchants, and the poor *Iriſh* Manufacturer would be only employ'd in the moſt laborious and leaſt gainful Part of the Work, and thereby get a bare Livelihood; 'tis the *Engliſh* Merchants, who have Stocks of Money, and could employ the poor People of *Ireland*, that would have the Benefit of all their Labour, and if the *Iriſh* ſhould themſelves gain a little by this Work, and by being inſtrumental in encreaſing their Wealth, even that little would not ſtay with us, but be carried off, as all our Wealth is, to maintain our Gentlemen in *England*.

If under the preſent Diſcouragements, Hazards, and Forfeitures, ſome of our People will venture to carry ſome Woollen Goods to *Portugal* and *Spain*, and be able to underſell all others there, for which no doubt the *French* and *Dutch* are as much ſet againſt us on this account as ſome *Engliſh*; this ſhews to a Demonſtration, that the *Engliſh*, by the Help

of

of *Iriſh* Labour and Induſtry, could be able to underſell all others, and drive them out of foreign Markets; in obtaining which Advantage, and keeping it afterwards, they may have full Employment for their own People, as well as the People of *Ireland*; and 'tis certainly more for the Advantage of *England*, that the People of *Ireland* ſhould have a Share in this Trade, than that Foreigners ſhould run away with it; ſince every Addition to our Wealth will enlarge our Remittances to *England*.

We do not in the leaſt imagine or expect, that the People of *England* will come into any Indulgence of this kind for our Sakes; but if it is apparently for the Advantage of *England*, 'tis to be preſumed, they will not be blind to their own Intereſt, or neglect any Expedients, or Means, for encreaſing the Trade or Riches of their Kingdom, tho' they may ſeemingly interfere with the Intereſt of particular Companies, or Traders. For my own Part, as I have ſome ſmall Eſtate in both Countries, I am perſuaded as an *Engliſhman*, that a proper Uſe of the Labour and Induſtry of the People of *Ireland*, is the beſt and ſureſt Fund to encreaſe the Wealth of *England*.

4*thly*, I Shall now offer ſome Hints, and Propoſals for the Improvement and Regulation of our Trade.

But am forc'd to premiſe what I have to ſay, with this melancholly Reflection, That as long as this waſteful Export of our Treaſure continues, and carries off every Acquiſition we can make, it will be in vain to offer any Expedients for encreaſing our Manufactures, leſſening our Imports, or Improving our Trade; for every Inlett of Wealth we can make, will be too little to feed and ſatisfy this devouring Drain, which will ever keep us poor and miſerable.

It must very much affect every one, who wishes well to this Country, to consider that all our Toil and Labour can avail us nothing, and will only serve to continue that *Evil* upon us, which is the Cause of all our Poverty: for Poor we must ever be, so long as all the Advantages we can make by our Industry and Trade, fall so much short of our Remittances Abroad. If we must be always Poor, 'tis better to enjoy Poverty with Ease, than to sweat and toil, without any Hopes of mending our Condition, and without any other Effect than that of supporting the Vanity of our Gentlemen abroad, who treat their Country with Contempt, and ruin it without Remorse.

But as I am not without Hopes, that some Measures will be thought of, and soon put in Execution, that may, in some Degree, remove our present Grievances, and go to the Bottom of the Evil; I shall on that account humbly offer some Hints, which may be improv'd to good Purposes, by others of greater Abilities, or may put them on thinking on better Ways and Means of serving their Country.

1*st*, I shall say nothing of our Linen Manufacture, which is already brought to a great Degree of Perfection, and still continues improving under the happy Direction and Regulation of the Trustees, who have done the greatest Good to the Nation by the small Fund, vested in them for the Improvement of the Linen and Hempen Manufacture, perhaps ten times more than the Value of that Fund amounts unto; and we might promise our selves much greater Advantages from their good Management, if their Fund was made double or treble what it is at present; by which they might be enabled to set on foot and cultivate the making of *Paper*, *Lace*, *Cambrick*, and several other Manufactures and Trades, which we are well qualify'd to carry on, and which require Instruction in the Beginning, and Encouragement to over-

come the Difficulties and Losses which always attend the first Attempts in every Invention and Trade.

2*d*, There are imported yearly from *Great Britain*, in *English* and *Scots* Ships, between 60 and 70 Thousand Tuns of Coals, according to the Custom-House Books, for which we pay in ready Money, about 50,000 *l.* which Sum is immediately carry'd off in Specie, and the Ships return home empty; others, not without good Reason, make the Quantity of Coals imported to be near a third part more: we are apt to complain of the Colliers carrying off so much of our Money, which we more sensibly feel in the Loss of our Silver; and yet 'tis our own Fault that we lose so much by them, since it is in our own Power to save near half of the Expence, by becoming our own Carriers, or importing the Coals in our own Shipping, whereby we might gain the Freight and Merchants Profit, and pay only eight Shillings *per* Tun for all the Cost abroad.

We are supply'd with Coals from *Erwin*, *Saltcoats*, and lately from *Aran* in *Scotland*, from *Whitehaven*, *Workington*, *Parton*, and *Mossom* in *England*, from *Flint*, *Swansey*, and other Places in *Wales*; this Conveniency of being supply'd from so many Places, will prevent or defeat any Combinations to our Prejudice; and as we may foresee, that an Attempt to import these Coals our selves, may probably be oppos'd by the Colliers, Masters, and Owners of the Shipping now employ'd in that Trade, who may be apprehensive that they may lose their Bread thereby; it may be adviseable for the People of *Ireland*, to buy up several of those Ships, and employ the same Masters and Seamen, who will be as well satisfy'd, provided they are still employ'd and well paid.

It wou'd be a great Advantage and Credit to the City of *Dublin*, if the Citizens wou'd, by Mortgage of the City-Revenue raise 6 or 7000 *l.* and therewith purchase yearly, at the cheapest Time, about 1000

Tun

Tun of Coals, and lay in them up in ſeveral Parts of the City, for the Conveniency of the Inhabitants, and oblige themſelves to ſell them in the Winter at 18 *s. per* Tun; for ſuch a Stock of Coals to be ſold at that Rate, would defeat the Deſigns of Engroſſers, and Colliers, prevent extravagant Prices, and relieve the Poor, and at the ſame time would afford a Profit, that would much more than anſwer the Intereſt of the Money thus rais'd.

All Attempts for diſcovering Mines of Coal, and conveying them by Water-Carriage to the Places of Conſumption, ought to be encourag'd; we hope the Deſign of making a navigable Communication between *Dungannon* and *Newry* may ſucceed, that thereby we may be furniſhed with Coals of our own Country for our Conſumption.

We have of late diſcovered Coal-Mines in the Counties of *Cork* and *Leitrim*, and in *Auguſt* laſt in the County of *Kilkenny*, within two Miles of *Leighlin* Bridge, and the River *Barrow*, with a Deſcent all the way to it; theſe laſt Coals may be carry'd down the *Barrow* in Lighters to *Roſs* and *Waterford*, and there ſhipp'd off to *Dublin*; where, conſidering the Laſtingneſs of the Coal, (which will make them better for the Kitchen) they may be had cheaper than Coals from *Whitehaven*, or any other Place abroad.

A Fund of 3 or 4000 *l.* would be ſufficient to carry on that Work, and ſupply the City of *Dublin* with ſeveral Thouſand Tuns of that Coal in a Year, and 'tis hoped ſome Perſons will be found that will enter into the Deſign.

3*d*, We import to the Value of 48,235 *l.* in Hops at a Medium yearly, for four Years ending *March* 24, 1726. which is near as much as we pay for Coals; 'tis ſurpriſing that we have ſo little cultivated this Commodity, which is ſo much in Demand; when 'tis certain, that in the *Southern* Parts of the Kingdom, we

could raiſe very good Hops, and ſufficient for our own Conſumption. With ſome it has ſucceeded well; but the Want of Hop-Poles is the great Diſcouragement in this Country, where there are ſo few Plantations or Trees to be met with; and it requires ſeven Years or more from the firſt planting of Oziers, Sallies, Birch, Aſh, &c. before they will come to a ſufficient Growth for Poles; but as the firſt Expence of theſe Nurſeries is ſmall, and the Profit at laſt very conſiderable, and the Management of Hop-Yards eaſily known; 'tis to be hoped ſome Gentlemen will begin ſo laudable a Work, as well for their own Good, as that of their Country.

4th, We pay the *Dutch* 5285 *l.* for Madder, at a Medium yearly, which we might as well raiſe and cultivate among our ſelves, our Land having been found very fit to produce it, and there being little Skill wanting for the Management of it.

5th, 'Tis a great Reproach to us, that we who are ſurrounded with a Sea abounding in all Sorts of Fiſh, and furniſh'd with many Harbours for carrying on Fiſheries to great Advantage, ſhould neglect this Treaſure, which Nature has brought to our Doors; and that inſtead of ſupplying foreign Markets with this Commodity, to our great Profit, we ſhould even import from other Countries to the Value of 5708 *l.* yearly at a Medium, in Herrings only, for our own Conſumption.

6th, It appears by the Cuſtom-Houſe Books, that we paid to other Countries, at a Medium yearly, for four Years, ending *March* 24, 1726. for Silken Manufactures 42,986 *l.* for Woollen Manufactures 24,755 *l.* for undreſſed Hemp 11,483 *l.* for Paper 10,645 *l.* for Ironmonger Ware 10,766 *l.* for Cambricks 8,406 *l.* for Hollands 8,636 *l.* for Earthen Ware 5,552 *l.* and for Whalebone 5,114 *l.* all which, as well as other Valuations before ſet forth, are herein particularly mentioned with this View, that our own People ſeeing

the

the Value of thoſe ſeveral Commodities, which are imported yearly upon us, and which all pay Duty, may be thereby tempted to furniſh the Kingdom from their own Induſtry, with the ſame Commodities; which we are well qualified to do, if proper Meaſures were taken, and Encouragements given to undertake and proſecute thoſe Branches of Trade.

7th, We have of late been put into a Method of tanning Hides, with the Help of Tormentil Roots inſtead of Bark, and have made ſome ſucceſsful Experiments therein; and if upon farther and compleat Trials in all ſorts of Leather, this Practice ſhall be found to ſucceed, 'tis hoped, it may come into a general Uſe, and thereby ſave yearly above 16,000 *l.* which we pay for foreign Bark, and enable us to export all our Hides fully tann'd, and thereby enlarge the Value of our Exports.

8th, The Inhabitants of *Belfaſt* have begun a laudable Practice of uſing Linen Scarfs and Crapes at Funerals, inſtead of Silk Modes, which are generally imported clandeſtinely into the Kingdom from *France*, and are of little Service for any other Purpoſe, and are pretty much of the ſame Price: whereas Linen Scarfs may be applied to many other Uſes, and may be made of all Prices, from one Shilling to eight Shillings a Yard, anſwerable to the Quality or Fortune of the Deceaſed; which are good Arguments for their Uſe, and the more ſo, when we conſider, that they are the Manufacture of our own Kingdom.

9th, It may be thought adviſeable alſo for the People of *Ireland* to bury their Dead in Woollen; by which means they will increaſe the Manufacture and Conſumption of their own Wooll, which they are not allowed to export Abroad; and at the ſame time ſave more Linen for Exportation, for which they have full Vent in other Countries.

10th, I can't but take notice of the impolitick Conduct of our Merchants, who crowding into foreign Markets, with great Quantities of our perishable Commodities at once, give Foreigners an Opportunity of playing them one against another, and sinking the Value of their Goods very low; whereas, if they would concert their Affairs better, and forbear carrying their Commodities to such Places, in greater Proportions than they are demanded, they might dispose of them to much greater Advantage, and turn the Tables on those, who can't do without them.

Having thus with the greatest Candour and Impartiality laid before the Reader, the yearly Value of the Remittances in Money, which we may reasonably be suppos'd to make to our Gentlemen who live abroad; and having also consider'd, what Ballance in our Favour we have by our whole Trade to enable us to maintain these Remittances; and having likewise taken into Consideration several other Articles which do either increase or lessen the Ballance: I leave it to every one to judge whether the Inferences and Observations drawn from thence are well grounded. It appears on one hand, that our *Absentees* draw out of the Kingdom yearly above 600,000 *l.* and on the other, that the Ballance in our Favour by our Trade (which is the Fund we have to discharge these Draughts upon us with,) amounts to no more than 180,000 *l.* yearly, according to the publick Estimates, and by Consequence there will be wanting 420,000 *l.* to make good these Payments.

Now supposing the said Ballance of 180,000 *l.* not to be lessen'd by the Running of foreign Goods into the Kingdom; but, on the contrary, by a more advantageous Sale of our Commodities abroad in a fair Trade, and by any other Article of Profit to be increas'd to a further Sum of 180,000 *l.* (which is much too great to be allow'd) yet even then we shall want

want 240,000 *l.* to make up the full Sum of our Remittances abroad.

How we have been able hitherto to ſupport all this, I leave to others to account for; perhaps, that Stock which we have been gathering for many Years, may hitherto have enabled us to anſwer theſe Demands upon us, when they were more moderate; but, 'tis impoſſible for us to ſubſiſt much longer under ſuch a waſteful Drain: 'tis evident, by the great Scarcity of Money in the Kingdom, that our Stock is draining off to the Lees; which is in a good meaſure owing alſo to the Neceſſity we were under the laſt two Years of ſending out to the Value of between 1 and 200,000 *l.* to bring in Corn for our Subſiſtance.

If this be our Caſe now, and that the preſent Caſh of the Kingdom is no way ſufficient to carry on our domeſtick or foreign Trade, and that there is a great Stagnation in our Buſineſs already for want of Money; what muſt be our Caſe in a little time, when all the reſt of our Species ſhall be carry'd off? as it muſt certainly be, if our Gentlemen abroad ſhall continue to draw it from us, in the Degree they do at preſent; the Conſequence will then be, that we ſhall not be able to ſupport our Eſtabliſhment, and ſhall ceaſe to be an Advantage to *England*, which will ever receive leſs from us in Proportion, as we grow poorer. 'Tis to be hoped the People of *England* will not be againſt our taxing the Eſtates of our *Abſentees*, ſince it may enable us to pay the Taxes of our Country, ſupport our Government, and prevent our becoming a Burthen to them; and we may preſume they may be the rather inclin'd to approve of ſuch a Tax, ſince 'tis more than probable, that moſt of our *Abſentees* will, notwithſtanding this, ſtill live among them, and not forego their foreign Pleaſures on that Account.

I have taken particular notice of the Benefits, which accrue to *England* by its Dealings with *Ireland*, and

and that it is its Intereſt to let the People of *Ireland* into a free Enjoyment of every Branch of Trade, and to give full Employment to all their Hands, ſince every Profit ariſing from thence will only ſerve to enlarge their Remittances to that Kingdom.

If the People of *England* will ſtill keep us under the ſame Reſtrictions in Trade, let them ſend us home our Gentlemen; or if they will have our Gentlemen live and ſpend their Fortunes among them, it is to be hoped that they will give us a greater Liberty of Trade, to enable us to maintain them there: One or other of theſe Expedients ſeems to be abſolutely neceſſary at preſent, for the Support of this Kingdom.

Having by this time tir'd the Reader as well as my ſelf, I ſhall only beg leave to take notice, that I hope the general Obſervations I have drawn from a plain Repreſentation of Matters of Fact, and publick Eſtimates, will not, as it never was my Intention they ſhould, give the leaſt Offence to any one. 'Tis of no Importance to be inform'd who the Author is; it may ſuffice to know that he can with the greateſt Truth and Sincerity declare, that he has employ'd his Thoughts, and ſome leiſure Hours on this Subject, with no other Deſign, than to do ſome Service to this Country, and that he has no perſonal Views either to hurt any one, or to ſerve himſelf. He has no Employment, nor does he deſire any: He is the Son of an *Engliſhman*, and has part of his Fortune lying in *England*; he propoſes to himſelf no other Satisfaction or Reward, than to be ſo happy as to put others of greater Abilities and Experience, on Thoughts and Meaſures of encreaſing our Trade and Riches, and avoiding thoſe Evils, which at preſent threaten the Ruin of the Kingdom.

APPEN-

APPENDIX TO THE List of the Absentees of *Ireland*.

IN the Second Edition of the List of *Absentees*, I have added the following Persons, who were omitted in the first, and make no doubt, but many more may still be added on a farther Enquiry: But as the List already exhibited is abundantly sufficient to support my Argument, I shall at present give my self no farther Trouble about it.

	l.	
Lady *Doneraile*,	1500	
Dr. *Berkely*, Dean of *Derry*,	900	1st Class.
Sir *Cecil Wray*,	2300	
Widow *Putland*, Sen.	1000	
William Balfour, Esq;	600	2d Class.
Lady *Rawdon*,	1000	3d Class.
Lady *Butler*,	400	
&c.		

I am told some are disobliged for my rating their Estates too low, but they should consider that I have not taken upon me to give the full Value of any Gentleman's Estate, but only so much of it, as he may be suppos'd to spend Abroad; for I am satisfy'd, that the Estates of some Gentlemen are much greater than I have made them, a considerable Part thereof being applied to several Uses at home;

and indeed I have taken particular Care in order to prevent Objections of this Nature, to be below the real Value in every Article of the Liſt.

Some think the Eſtates of thoſe occaſional *Abſentees*, who ſtay Abroad but a ſhort Time ſhould not be rated higher, than to anſwer their Expences for the Time they are abroad; but it ought to be remembred, (as I have already obſerved) that in theſe Computations, we ought to mention thoſe who are at any *one* Time abſent, for if ſome come Home, others go Abroad, ſo that their Number is generally the ſame; and I have accordingly not taken Notice of any one, who has gone out of the Kingdom ſince the Time of making the Liſt, which was *May*, *June*, and *July* laſt.

If any one imagines that our Profit by Trade amounts yearly to more than I have made it, I will at preſent ſuppoſe it to be 350,000 *l.* or if that be not thought ſufficient 400,000 *l.* but even this Sum falls 200,000 *l.* ſhort of our preſent Remittances Abroad, which conſequently muſt reduce our Capital Stock to nothing in a little Time.

But that we ſhould not flatter ourſelves with a Notion, that we have now a Ballance of 400,000 *l.* in Money in our Favour by Trade; I ſhall ſhew that very few Countries in *Europe* have at preſent ſuch a Ballance; and in order to this, I ſhall conſider what Money all the Countries of *Europe* may be reaſonably ſuppoſed to gain yearly by their Traffick, whereby we may alſo make ſome Eſtimate of the Share of that Gain belonging to *Ireland*: At firſt Sight it may be thought very difficult to come to any Certainty in this Matter, but I hope to be able to give ſome Satisfaction without running into any Length.

The Riches of every Country is principally eſtimated by the Quantity of its Gold and Silver; ſome Countries derive this Wealth from Mines of Gold

and

and Silver beſtowed upon them by Nature, all others which are deſtitute of theſe Subterraneaa Treaſures, have no other Way of procuring them, but by giving their Commodities in Exchange for them.

Now the *Spaniards* and the *Portugueſe* import yearly from *America* into *Europe*, when their Trade is free and uninterrupted, near Four Millions *Sterling* in Gold and Silver, of each of theſe Metals an equal Value pretty nearly; the Supply of Bullion from the other Parts of the World is very inconſiderable in Compariſon of this. If we ſuppoſe, that Three Millions of this Treaſure (which is a large Allowance) is diſtributed yearly among the other Countries of *Europe* in Exchange for their Commodities, and that the Remainder only ſtays in *Spain* and *Portugal*; and if we farther ſuppoſe that One Million of the Three is ſent away yearly in Silver to the *Eaſt-Indies*, by the *Engliſh*, *Dutch*, *French*, *Danes*, and other Nations that trade thither, (as we have very good Reaſon to believe,) then it will of Conſequence follow, that all the other Countries in *Europe* together cannot gain more Money yearly by their Trade than Two Millions; nay, not ſo much, ſince the *Turkiſh* Dominions in *Aſia*, and the Northern Parts of *Africa* have ſome ſmall Part thereof: And this being the Caſe, 'tis evident that the Share of any one Country of *Europe* in this yearly Importation of Bullion from *America* cannot be very great; it cannot reaſonably be ſuppoſed to amount to many Hundred Thouſand Pounds yearly, ſince there are ſo many trading Nations, all which have Shares therein, ſome greater, others leſs, according to their Trade; and therefore ſo large a Sum as 400,000 *l.* which is a fifth Part of the Whole, cannot well be ſuppoſed to be the Share of *Ireland*, a Country ſmall in its Extent, and not conſiderable in its Trade.

It is true, one Country may by the Largeneſs of its Trade get from others yearly, not only their Shares of this *American* Treaſure, but alſo a Part of their capital Stock: But this Gain can never laſt long; for no Country, but ſuch as have conſtant Supplies from their Mines, can for any Length of Time bear a conſiderable Loſs of its Species, without loſing its Trade, and being undone.

But it has been objected, that if there is a Drain of 600,000 *l.* yearly out of this Kingdom, and if all our yearly Profit by Trade amounts to no more than 350,000 *l.* or 400,000 *l.* we muſt have been long ſince exhauſted; but this being not ſo in Fact, there muſt of Conſequence be a Miſtake in the Calculation.

This being the ſtrongeſt, and the only Objection of any Weight that has been raiſed againſt my Paper, I ſhall beg Leave to be a little more particular in my Anſwer to it. When the Principles we argue from are undoubted, and true in Fact, the Inferences juſtly drawn from thoſe Principles cannot with any Reaſon be denied. If it be true, that we pay yearly 600,000 *l.* and get but 400,000 *l.* it neceſſarily follows that we loſe yearly 200,000 *l.* of our capital Stock, which muſt conſequently be exhauſted in a few Years; but then it will be asked, How comes it that we have not been exhauſted before now? This I ſhall endeavour to account for.

We may obſerve, that 280,000 *l.* the *Cuſtom-Houſe* Ballance of Trade in our Favour, at a Medium yearly for ſeven Years ending 1720, was greater than the Ballance for the ſeven ſubſequent Years by 100,000 *l.* and that the Ballance for the Four firſt Years of the laſt ſeven Years, did not fall much ſhort of the precedent Years; the great Deficiencies having fallen chiefly upon us, ſince the Beginning of the Year 1726. Now, if to the ſaid Ballance of 280,000 *l.* we add a Surplus Profit of 100,000 *l.* which we will

ſuppoſe to have ariſen yearly from the Sale of our Commodities Abroad, at a higher Price than they were rated at Home, then the whole Ballance in our Favour for that Time will be 380,000 *l.* yearly. This Profit, in all Likelihood, was ſufficient to anſwer all the Demands upon us from Abroad in that Period, which Demands were then very moderate in compariſon of what they are at preſent: for I think it may be made to appear by conſidering the following Articles, that our Remittances Abroad for the laſt two Years have exceeded thoſe of many former Years by above 200,000 *l.* yearly.

1*ſt*, The Articles of 30,000 *l.* to our Regiments at *Gibraltar*, and 30,000 *l.* more by our Adventurers to *America* (mentioned in the Liſt) have taken place the laſt two Years only.

2*d*, Our Penſioners, and others on our Civil and Military Eſtabliſhments are obſerved not to live near ſo much among us of late, as they uſed to do.

3*d*, The Eſtates of ſeveral Gentlemen abroad, which were ſet ſome Time after the *Revolution* for the Term of 31 Years, have, upon the Expiration of the Leaſes within theſe few Years paſt, been conſiderably raiſed, ſome to more than double of their former Rents.

4*th*, The Humour of going Abroad, whether to *Soiſſons* to ſee the *Congreſs*, or to other Places for other Motives, has remarkably increaſed among our *Gentry*, within theſe few Years paſt.

These Articles, and perhaps more, which may occur to others, have ſwell'd the Demands upon us from Abroad the laſt two Years, more in all Probability by 200,000 *l.* yearly than in former Years.

Our yearly Profit by Trade, together with our Capital Stock, (which we have been gathering for many Years) may hitherto have enabled us to bear theſe Remittances, but if our Drains ſhould continue upon us a few Years more in the ſame Degree they

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are at present, we must be a poor and miserable People, utterly unable to support our Establishment. To see us reduced to these unhappy Circumstances must be a Concern to all, excepting those who are Enemies to the present happy Settlement in our Royal Family, who would no doubt rejoice to see the *Protestants* of *Ireland*, the most zealous Assertors of his Majesty's Rights, disabled from maintaining those Rights, by being thrown into Poverty and Distress.

Whatever Course may be thought fit to be taken with respect to some of our *Absentees*, it is not to be supposed that it shall extend to those, who are Members of either House of *Parliament* of *Great Britain*. Those honourable Persons deserve the highest Regards from us, both on Account of their signal Services in promoting the general Security and Happiness of all his Majesty's Dominions, and also on Account of their good Offices done to this Country in particular.

As to our occasional *Absentees*, who generally live at Home, and seldom go Abroad, unless for Health or Business, they may be made easy on this Account, since eight or twelve Months may be allowed for any to be Abroad, without including them within the Penalties of an Act for that Purpose.

But as to our Gentlemen, who live for the most part abroad, and seem neither to have a Call there, or to be in a Way of doing any Service to this Kingdom; an Indulgence to them would but encourage others to forsake their Country also. 'Tis highly just and reasonable that they should pay their Share of the Publick Charges, as well as those who stay at Home, and it is to be hoped that nothing shall excuse them from it; nay, if the Matter be rightly considered, they ought to pay more than others, for as much as by their extravagant Manner of Living they really hurt us, in making other People believe we are rich, when we are really poor.

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Some have ſtarted an Objection, that we might as well tax ſuch of our Gentlemen at home, who do not live up to their Fortunes; but we ſhould conſider that, tho' ſome may not make their yearly Expences equal to their Incomes, yet as they lay the Remainder out in Purchaſes or otherwiſe, and that little or no Money lies dead in their Hands, but circulates in the Buſineſs and Conſumption of other People, it has the ſame Effect with reſpect to the Kingdom, as if they themſelves had ſpent all the Rents of their Eſtates among us.

It has been ſaid by ſome, that there accrues no Loſs, but an Advantage to the Kingdom by our Gentlemen ſpending their Eſtates abroad, becauſe by that Means we conſume ſo much leſs of foreign Commodities at home, and export more of our own to other Countries. I wiſh ſuch Perſons could prevail on the Gentlemen of *England* to come and ſpend their Fortunes in *Ireland*, that their own Country may have the ſame Advantage.

But how ſhall our Eſtabliſhment be ſupported, if our Conſumptions, from whence our Taxes ariſe, ſhall decreaſe every day? Or how can our domeſtick Buſineſs be carried on without a ſufficient Stock of Money, or we be able to maintain our Gentlemen Abroad, of whom they are ſo tender, if all our Gain by Trade falls ſo much ſhort of their Demands upon us?

Besides, if the Matter be thoroughly conſidered, we ſhall find that our Exportations can be but little increaſed by our Gentlemen living abroad, ſince the greateſt Part of our home Conſumptions conſiſt of ſuch Articles, as cannot bear Exportation; namely, Mutton, Veal, Fowls, Roots, Fruits, freſh Fiſh, Malt-Drink, *&c.* And tho' the Conſumption of our Imports ſhould be a little leſſened thereby, yet that will by no means make Amends for the Decreaſe in our Duties, by which our Government is ſupported,

and

and for the yearly Loſs of ſo much Money ſpent by them abroad.

It muſt be acknowledged that ſeveral Gentlemen in this Kingdom have Eſtates in *England*, and have their Rents conſtantly returned to them hither, and that now and then Money is brought over and laid out here at Intereſt or in Purchaſes; and that a good deal of Money is detained here to pay the Debts of ſeveral *Abſentees*, but I have not been able to form any Judgment of the Value or Quantity thereof.

I ſhall now beg leave to mention ſome farther Hints concerning our Trade and Manufactures which were omitted in the firſt Edition, or have occurred to me ſince.

1ſt, The Scarcity of Corn, which we labour'd under the laſt two or three Years, ſhould put us in mind of encouraging Tillage, by erecting publick Granaries for keeping and preſerving all Sorts of Corn in our principal Sea-Ports, namely *Dublin*, *Waterford*, *Cork*, *Limerick*, *Gallway*, *Londonderry*, *Belfaſt*, *Newry* and *Drogheda*, or in ſome of them; which would prevent a Famine or Scarcity at any Time at Home, and enable us to export conſiderable Quantities of Corn yearly to other Countries, where it ſhall happen to be ſcarce and dear. For it may be obſerv'd, that in ſome Parts or other of *Europe*, either *North* or *South*, there is hardly a Year, but by the Courſe of Rains or other natural Cauſes the Harveſt fails in a great Meaſure: The laſt three Years the *Southern* Parts of *Europe* abounded with great Quantities of Corn, and the *Northern* Parts failed; and this preſent Year the *Northern* Countries have great Plenty, and the *Southern* are in Want: and thoſe Nations are always ſure to have the Advantage of high Prices, who have a Stock laid up at low Rates, to anſwer all Demands from Abroad. 'Tis often our Misfortune in *Ireland* to export our Corn cheap in the Beginning of the Year, and to be

under

under the Neceſſity of importing the ſame back again at a dear Rate at the End of it.

Good Regulations may be made for ſecuring every one's Property in the ſaid Granaries, and to keep the Corn in good Order, ſuch as they have in *Dantzick*: and it may be farther provided, that every one's Share in theſe Granaries may be a living Stock to him, and not lie dead upon his Hands at a Time when there ſhall be no Demand from abroad: For it may be ſo ordered, that any one who ſhall depoſite 1000 Barrels of Wheat there, and ſhall bring a Certificate of his Stock from the Overſeer of the Granary, may aſſign over the ſame to another for two Thirds of the Value, paying Intereſt for the Sum advanc'd. By this means the Creditor will have a ſufficient Security in his hands for his Money, and the Farmer or Corn-Merchant be ſupply'd with two Thirds of the Value of his Corn to anſwer his preſent Occaſions, and not be laid under a Neceſſity of ſelling, until the Markets at home or abroad give him an Opportunity of doing it to Advantage; in which Caſe the Creditor muſt be firſt ſatisfied before the Corn can be removed.

2*d*, It will follow, that we import yearly into the Kingdom to the Value of Twenty thouſand Pounds in *Flanders* and foreign Lace, on Suppoſition that only a Thouſand Ladies in the whole Kingdom lay out yearly one with another, to the Value of twenty Pounds therein; which Suppoſition is very moderate, both in reſpect to the Value of the Lace and Number of the Ladies: For as long as the *Engliſh* and *French* ſhall continue to wear fine Lace, we may be aſſured that our *Iriſh* Ladies will not fail to imitate them.

It would be of great Service to the Publick, if the Truſtees of the Linen Manufacture were enabled to ſet on foot this Manufacture, by which we may ſupply all our own Occaſions, and thereby ſave

yearly the aforementioned Sums, and alſo furniſh other Countries with great Quantities thereof to our Advantage. And we may reaſonably promiſe our ſelves Succeſs in this Manufacture, ſince our Women are come to great Perfection in ſpinning fine Thread, and improve every Day both in the Fineneſs and Whiteneſs of it; ſo that we are already in a great meaſure prepared for this Manufacture, and have a great Number of idle Hands fit to be employed in this Work.

3d, We have already begun a Manufacture of Cambrick, and at once are arriv'd to a conſiderable Fineneſs therein. This Branch of our Linen Manufacture ſhould meet with all Encouragement, ſince by our own Induſtry we may ſupply both our own and our Neighbours Demands; and thereby not only avoid paying above 8,000 *l.* yearly for foreign Cambrick, but in a great meaſure ſuperſede any farther Occaſion for Muſlin, Cambricks being now generally uſed for the ſame Purpoſes as Muſlin, and of double the Service; which would be ſtill a greater Advantage ſince we have imported to the Value of 17,137 *l.* in Muſlin at a Medium yearly for ſeven Years, ending *24th* of *March* 1726.

4th, We have hitherto made little or no Progreſs in making of Paper, which is ſo nearly allied to the Linen Manufacture; thoſe Countries being obſerved to make moſt Paper which make moſt Linen. 'Tis to be hoped that our Truſtees of the Linen Manufacture will be enabled to ſet on foot the making of this Commodity, which is ſo much in Demand; we may be furniſhed in a great meaſure with the Materials of it at home, if our poor People were employed and encouraged to gather Rags, which lie neglected every where, in Imitation of the *Dutch*, who even ſend Ships abroad yearly to carry home a Loading of Rags, and make great Advantage thereof.

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5th, We have imported to the Value of 43,933 *l.* in Deal-Boards and Timber of all ſorts, at a Medium yearly for ſeven Years, ending the 24*th* of *March* 1726. 'Tis a great Misfortune that we are under the Neceſſity of ſending to diſtant Countries for Timber for building our Houſes, and even for the neceſſary Uſes of Agriculture; our poor People for want of it can have nothing but miſerable Cabbins to dwell in, and frequently loſe their Cattle in great Numbers, for want of Houſes to ſhelter them in ſevere Weather. 'Tis to be hoped our Legiſlature will enter into Meaſures to encourrge the planting of Trees, which may in Time anſwer our Occaſions, and prevent our ſending ſo much Money abroad yearly for the Purchaſe of this Commodity.

I CANNOT but obſerve, that our Law, and the uſual Clauſes in Leaſes, which reſerve all Trees to the Landlord, are in effect the Cauſe why neither Landlord nor Tenant have any Trees at all. There was good Reaſon for theſe Reſervations in former Times when the Country was covered with Woods, in regard theſe Woods were entirely owing to Nature, and not to any Induſtry of the Tenant, who paid leſs Rent for Lands which were covered with them; therefore it was fit that the Proprietor of the Land ſhould have the whole Benefit of the Trees. But now the Caſe is quite different; for by the Landlords neglecting to preſerve the young Growth of Woods, which were cut down, by coppiſing the ſame, we have now no Woods at all; nor have any Way left to raiſe new Plantations but by giving Encouragement to the Perſons who occupy the Land, and muſt be at great Pains and Expence in planting and preſerving the ſame; for it cannot be expected, that a Tenant, who perhaps pays a dear Rent for his Land, will voluntarily load himſelf with a farther Charge, without ſome Proſpect of Advantage to himſelf; and ſo the Landlord by not allowing the

Tenant a reaſonable Profit for his Labour and Expence, is prevented from having any Profit at all himſelf.

The late Act of Parliament, which gives the Tenant, at the End of his Leaſe, a Right to the third Part of the Trees he ſhall plant, by giving too little Encouragement, has had little or no Effect; for what Reaſon can there be to give the Landlord, who has already by his Rent the full Value of his Land, two Thirds of all the Trees the Tenant ſhall plant, and to leave only one Third for the Tenant, which will not anſwer his Trouble and Expence, eſpecially where the Term of the Leaſe does not exceed twenty one Years; for Trees planted at the Beginning of ſuch a Leaſe, will be but of little Value at the Expiration of it.

It may be therefore adviſeable to entitle the Tenant to two Thirds of the Trees he ſhall plant, and to oblige him to ſell them to the Landlord for their Value in Money, if they ſhould not be of fit Growth to be cut down at the Expiration of his Leaſe. By this means the Landlord will have the third part clear Gain, (for which he is at no manner of Expence) and alſo the Benefit of the future Growth of the whole after the End of the Term; and the Tenant will be encouraged to plant, to the great Benefit and Ornament of the Kingdom.

It may be proper alſo to give all Gentlemen, who are Tenants for Life by their Marriage-Settlements, or otherwiſe, ſuch a Power over all Trees they ſhall plant, as that their Executors may have a Year or two after their Deaths, to diſpoſe of them for the Benefit of their younger Children.

6th, The Gentlemen who have ſet up the making of Glaſs-Bottles among us, have done real Service to their Country, and 'tis hoped that they will be encouraged to proceed to the making all Sorts of Glaſs-Ware. Iron-Ware may be made with Advantage

vantage near thoſe Places where our Coal-Mines lie, and where Firing is conſequently cheap. But theſe, and all other Improvements require Stocks of Money, which we are not ſo happy as to have at preſent, nor are we in a likely way of getting or keeping any for the future: Since the Gentlemen of Fortune among us, as often as they make up a large Sum of Money, never lay it out in promoting new Manufactures and Improvements that are wanted, which would be doing the greateſt good to their Country; but conſtantly diſpoſe of it in the Purchaſe of Lands, generally the Lands of ſome *Abſentee*, who never fails to carry it all out of the Kingdom: ſo that theſe Gentlemen, who do not ſpend any Part of their Money abroad, yet by acting in this manner, have all their Savings carry'd off from us. This might in ſome meaſure be prevented, if on all Sales of Land for the future, ſome Part of the Purchaſe-Money were by Law reſerved for the Uſe of the Publick.

7th, We have been ſome time ſince inform'd of his Majeſty's Gracious Intention of eſtabliſhing ſome Profeſſorſhips in the Univerſity of *Dublin* for the Advancement of Learning; and it were to be wiſh'd, that we had alſo Profeſſors of Agriculture, Trade, and Practical Arts; ſince 'tis to theſe we owe all the Neceſſaries, Conveniencies and Ornaments of Civil Life. At preſent Men of Learning have for the moſt part little or no Knowledge in theſe Affairs, and they who are in the Profeſſion of them want Ability or Leiſure to give others a juſt Light into them, or to improve them themſelves to that Degree they are capable of. It has been obſerv'd, that moſt of the uſeful Inventions for the Good of Mankind, have been owing to Men of Study and Obſervation, who have been of no particular Profeſſion, and yet have employ'd their Talents and Learning in

in the Improvement of Arts for the Good of Mankind, by proper Experiments and Obſervations.

In theſe laſt Ages, Lord *Bacon*, Mr. *Boyle*, Sir *Iſaac Newton*, *Hugenius*, and others, have obliged the World with ſeveral Inventions and Improvements, tending to the Advantage of human Life; and 'tis to be hoped that like Genius's may ariſe among ourſelves, if right Meaſures be taken to direct our Youth in the ſame Purſuits and Manner of Thinking. Nothing enlarges our Knowledge ſo much, or makes it ſo uſeful to the World as accurate Experiments and Obſervations. Theſe will preſerve the Minds of young Gentlemen from the Deluſions of Fancy, will enable them to judge rightly of the Nature of Things, and make them truly uſeful to the World.

FINDING that the *Bookſeller* intended to print a Second Edition of the Liſt of *Abſentees*, I was willing to make ſome ſmall Additions to it; but having not had time to draw them up in any other than a crude and indigeſted Manner, I muſt beg the Reader's Pardon for this and other Failings, and hope to be excuſed on account of the Sincerity of my Endeavours to ſerve my Country.

BRITISH MUSEUM

FINIS.

Veneris, 22 die Octobris, 1729.

Ordered,

THAT the proper Officers do lay before this Hou
a Liſt of all Perſons in Civil Employments, a
on the Military Eſtabliſhment, above the Degree of
Captain; and likewiſe, a Liſt of all Penſioners (ex
cept *French* Penſioners) diſtinguiſhing what
any of the ſaid Perſons or Penſioners have been
of this Kingdom within the Space of eight Ye
laſt paſt, and alſo which of them have paid the
of 4 *s. per* Pound; together with the Reaſons
which any of the ſaid Perſons have been excuſed
ame.

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